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No 61,215

THE



THE TIMES

FRIDAY APRIL 23 1982

Price twenty pence

Dock peace as board yields

A national strike by 18,000 dockers, set to start on Monday, may be averted. The National Dock Labour Board has withdrawn planned reforms in the dockers' employment system to which the Transport and General Workers' Union had objected.

De Lorean cars may be saved

The De Lorean sports car plant in West Belfast may be saved. Receivers said yesterday that proposals received from Mr John De Lorean made a basis for financing the company, which could lead to an agreement. Page 21

Concert night for sale

The London Philharmonic Orchestra is looking for 10 sponsors to sponsor it for £30,000 each. In return they will be able to "buy" a concert night at the Festival Hall, in London, and receive substantial publicity. Page 6

Record rise in farm prices

EEC farm ministers have all but agreed a record increase in earnings for the Community's eight million farmers. Standing in the way of a final settlement is the question of how much Britain should pay into the Budget. Page 10

Brezhnev back

President Brezhnev reappeared in public yesterday after an absence of 27 days. Looking reasonably fit and showing no obvious signs of fatigue, he took part in a televised Kremlin ceremony commemorating Lenin's birth. Page 7

Law change call

Lord Gardiner, the former Lord Chancellor, and Sir David Napley, former president of the Law Society, said that they favoured reform of the appeals procedure to cope with cases of apparent miscarriage of justice. Page 3

Villa in trouble

Aston Villa's success in reaching the European Cup final may be marred if UEFA penalize the club for the violence of some British supporters in Brussels on Wednesday night. Page 27

School quangos

The Government has decided to abolish the Schools Council for Curriculum and Examinations and replace it by two quangos to advise on examinations and curriculum development. Page 2

Preview

Cycling can be economical commuting, freewheeling recreation, or jogging without the jarring. Today's Preview, the 16-page entertainment guide published each Friday with The Times, tells you how to get started.

Tomorrow's Times

Tony Emerson, our special correspondent in Buenos Aires who revealed the Falklands crisis over the Falklands, explains tomorrow what the British subjects living in Argentina feel about the crisis.

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Task force admiral prepares air blockade of islands

As ships of the British task force moved into Falklands waters its commander, Rear-Admiral John Woodward spoke of his plan to impose an air blockade of the islands to match the 200-mile sea warzone. Mrs Thatcher after the second Cabinet meeting this week, again declined to rule out the use of force; the Foreign Secretary, in Washington to discuss Britain's proposals for a peaceful settlement, gave warning that "real obstacles" remained.

Defence stations alert for fleet

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The prospect of an air exclusion zone being established over the Falkland Islands by the rapidly approaching British task force, dominated military debate over the crisis yesterday after an interview given by Rear Admiral John Woodward, the battle group's commander.

Admiral Woodward's statement to the Press Association that he planned to complement the present maritime exclusion zone with an air blockade — sealing off the islands from supplies and reinforcements — was not immediately confirmed by the Ministry of Defence.

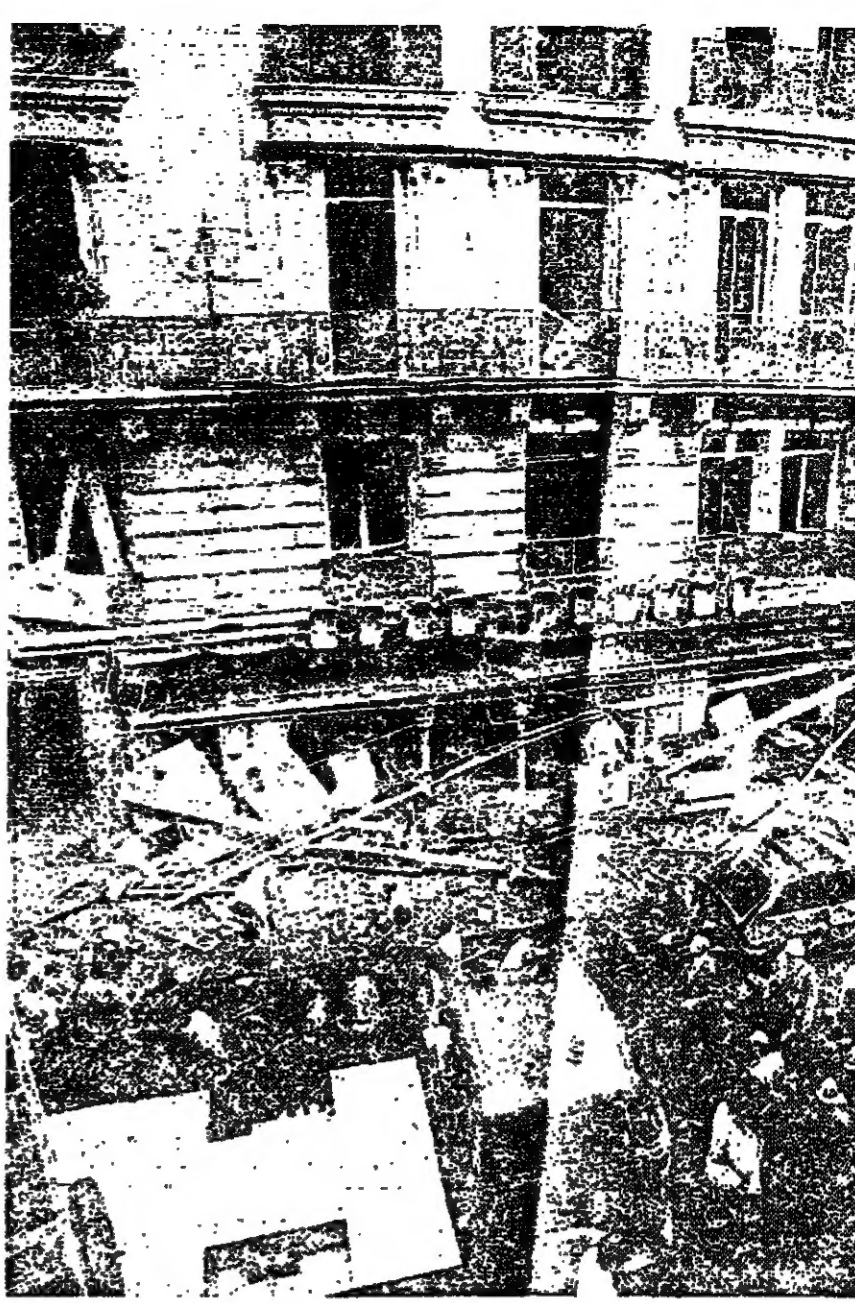
As the task force prepared for "defence stations", the high state of readiness to meet all contingencies in Falklands waters, a spokesman in London said that he was asking for a transcript of the interview.

But if Admiral Woodward has prepared his ministry he was only confirming what most armchair strategists have been speculating on for the last two weeks — that an air exclusion zone would be the next step, or one of the next steps — in Britain's attempt to regain the islands.

How effective such a blockade could be at present is another matter, given that in the air Britain lacks the obvious superiority that it has at sea.

The Atlantic Conveyor container ship with a cargo of additional Sea Harriers for the task force is due to leave for the South Atlantic from Devonport today, while still more RAF G3 Harriers will go out later after the crews have had more training. Together, these will nearly double the Harrier strength with the task force to around 40.

Chinook helicopters recently bought for the RAF from Boeing, are also to be ferried to the area to provide a heavy lifting capacity for troops and their equipment, the ministry disclosed yesterday.



A car bomb wrecked the Paris offices of a Lebanese newspaper yesterday, killing a woman and injuring 63. (Report, back page.)

Israeli threat to strike again if Palestinians retaliate

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, April 22

A new American diplomatic initiative designed to preserve the threatened ceasefire along Israel's northern border got under way today when Mr Walter Stoessel, deputy Secretary of State, met Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister.

The 60-minute meeting had originally been planned to discuss the remaining differences between Israel and Egypt over the new international border due to come into effect when the Sinai is returned on Sunday. But the subject was switched to the aftermath of yesterday's air raids into Lebanon.

The fact that the United States was not informed in advance about the bombings, which were carried out with aircraft supplied by the United States — and the timing of the attack have caused considerable anger and embarrassment among American officials.

It is understood that Mr Begin assured the American Government that yesterday's raids were intended as a warning to the Palestinians, and that Israel was not planning any further retaliation if there were no more Palestinian breaches of the ceasefire.

Secretary of State Mr Stoessel's discussions, but later he told reporters that in his talks he had been agreed that both sides had every interest in ensuring that the situation remained calm and that the ceasefire was observed.

Forecast of better times to come

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The world's economies will start to pick up this summer and better times are likely next year, according to new forecasts from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris.

Growth, especially in the United States and West Germany, is expected to rise over the next 18 months and inflation is expected to fall. Britain will share in the world boom, but the OECD forecasts only a slow recovery which it says will falter by the middle of next year.

The confidential forecasts, which are still provisional, will be discussed by top economic officials from the OECD countries at a meeting in Paris next week. They will give a brighter than expected background to the meeting of OECD ministers scheduled for next month and the world economic summit set for Versailles in France in early June.

The big question mark hanging over the forecasts is whether high interest rates in the United States will block the recovery. The OECD hopes that a package can be worked out in Washington to allow lower interest rates. The forecast says that after falling sharply in the first half of this year, the United States' output should rise at an annual rate of 2.1 per cent in the second half of this year, 2.5 per cent in the first half of 1983, and 3.7 per cent on the second half of next year.

Britain's recovery is expected to be gentler, with 1.3 per cent a year growth in the second half of next year falling away to 1.3 per cent annual growth in the second half. This may not be enough to reduce unemployment. West Germany's output is expected to rise by 3.3 per cent next year, (0.9 per cent in 1982) and the world as a whole will grow by about 2.8 per cent next year compared with only 0.3 per cent this year.

Next year inflation is expected to fall in many countries — down from 9.8 per cent this year to 7.9 per cent in Britain, to 6.2 per cent in the United States and only 3 per cent in West Germany.

Britain is expected to go on running a big payments surplus, set at \$6,200m (3,502m) next year after \$8,090m (£4,519m) this year.

The price for the biggest surplus goes to Japan, which is expected to earn a \$2,000m surplus in 1983, but West Germany is also expected to be in heavy surplus at \$11,000m next year. The United States will be in balance.

Weeping soldiers clear Yamit

From Christopher Walker, Yamit, April 22

The closing stages of the withdrawal operation to clear the Sinai of Jewish militants protesting against its impending transfer to Egypt were marked today by some of the most violent clashes yet seen between Israeli soldiers and Jewish civilians.

The violence erupted when helmeted troops using foam and sea water cannon, grapples, scaling ladders, and giant cages suspended from cranes moved in to remove some 300 protesters — mostly religious students — from the rooftops of buildings in the main urban settlement of Yamit.

The soldiers fought back with burning tyres, fistfuls of sand, poles, bottles and rocks. Those activists who resisted removal were wrestled to the ground by unarmed soldiers and their hands tied with cord. Many were carried away in the cages.

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Edinburgh BBC centre to go ahead

The BBC is to go ahead with plans for a new broadcasting centre in Edinburgh, which had been deferred because of lack of funds in the city. The centre will cost between £8m and £10m, the first £250,000 to be spent in 1984-85 and the rest in 1985-86 and 1986-87.

The BBC owns land at Leith Walk, in the Scottish capital, bought as the site for a new centre in 1976. Subsequent financial difficulties have delayed the project, but the centre may still be built there, but two other sites are also being examined.

Pensioner faces damage charge

A pensioner aged 71 was among 29 people who were remanded on bail until May 21 by magistrates at Chelmsford, Essex, yesterday, accused of conspiracy to cause damage at an animal research centre. Miss Louise Woodcock, of Winchester Hill, north London, was charged with 11 other women and 19 men aged between 17 and 59.

The charges arose from an incident at the Laboratory at Stock, near Chelmsford, on February 14, when dozens of demonstrators freed a number of animals.

Search for crash victims fails

A search by Sea King and Wessex helicopters and the assault ship Intruder yesterday failed to find any survivors of a Cessna 172 aircraft which crashed into the sea between the Isle of Wight and the Dorset coast on Wednesday.

A couple and their daughter, aged 11, from Paris, together with a male friend, were on board the plane, flying from Cherbourg to Southampton.

Pipe smoker dies after fire

A man who was badly burnt 11 days ago after dozing in his locked car while smoking his pipe has died in hospital in Sheffield.

Mr Malcolm Pearce, aged 45, a butcher, of Herbert Street, Kimberworth, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, suffered severe burns when the car burst into flames in the car park of a public house at Misterton, near Doncaster, on Wednesday.

Andersson is beaten

Lajos Portisch, the Hungarian Grand Master, increased his hold on the lead in the Phillips and Drew Kings Tournament at County Hall, London, yesterday (Harry Golombek writes).

He beat Ulf Andersson in the seventh round. It was Andersson's first loss in the tournament. Anatole Karpov, the world champion, adjourned his game against Timman in a winning position.

Correction

The LAG Bulletin, published by the Legal Action Group, which was described in "Horizons" on April 15 as "a student magazine for trainee solicitors", is a monthly journal for practising lawyers and advice workers.

Labour puts its heart into sexual equality

By Anthony Levins, Political Correspondent

A Labour plan to create sex equality units in every Government department is being considered for inclusion in the 200-page party rolling manifesto, which is to be put to this year's conference in Blackpool.

Staff at party headquarters in London are drawing together documentation for this overall policy document, which is to be ratified by a special meeting of the national executive committee on May 19.

A paper on women's rights drafted for the executive's home policy committee suggests that a Labour government will include a senior woman minister, of Cabinet rank, who will coordinate a campaign against sexual discrimination.

It says: "She will receive backing from the creation of specialised sex equality units in all the government departments. These units will act as the focal point within the departments for consideration of matters related to sexual inequality."

Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, last year indicated a move in that direction when he appointed Miss Joan Lester, a member of the Commons spokesperson on women's rights and welfare.

The policy paper says: "Our aim is to create a very different society, in which women are no longer oppressed as members of a socially inferior gender and a much more radical and equitable citizenship is achieved for men, women and children."

The document advocates a code of practice to control sexism in the media and in

advertising; more child-care facilities; a review of divorce and maintenance; a programme to challenge job discrimination; and an overall offensive against pay discrimination, which would include the principle of pay comparability for women.

It states: "Women play many roles, but the ones assigned to them by society are narrow stereotypes. They are stereotyped as wives and mothers, exploited as sex objects or viewed with suspicion as temptresses, but rarely as individuals for their true worth. Those that are regarded as 'successful' are dismissed as exceptions — a man's mind in a woman's body."

"We are concerned about the superficial, misleading representation of women in the mass media and in advertising, which, through constant and insidious conditioning, has a powerful impact."

"Even more disturbing is the spread of sex shops and pornographic literature and films which create a climate in which violence against women is likely to increase."

More than half the population were women, and yet they earned less than three-quarters of the average man's wage, and because most of them were employed in the service sector, many part-time, they had been hit hardest by Government cuts in spending. "The number of women registered as unemployed has more than doubled since the Tories came to power," it is said.

Women had been designated as unpaid domestic labourers, barred from active trade union involvement, forced into economic depen-

dency on men, and deprived of the opportunity to exploit their full potential. An expansion of child-care would be necessary, as well as a reorganization of paid employment, to free women from looking after young children; barring them from equality of opportunity.

Positive action would help women to train and apply for better paid, more skilled employment. "The new Labour government will ensure that the Civil Service and government contractors implement positive action programmes, and will also require local authorities, employers, training and educational bodies to follow our lead."

The final element of the campaign would be an offensive against low pay and the establishment of a principle of pay comparability, enhanced by amendments to the Sex Discrimination Act; barring direct and indirect discrimination on grounds of family status, shifting the burden of proof in discrimination cases from the complainant to the alleged discriminator, and repealing the small firms exemption.

The paper also states that the assumption of female dependency must be eradicated from the welfare state.

"The new Labour government will, therefore, outlaw discrimination against women in all spheres, including the tax and social security system."

This same principle of equality would apply to marriage. "In the case of breakdown, the real issue should be the maintenance of children, not spouses. Women should be encouraged to be independent."

Not lingering doubts, just a flicker that crosses the minds of Tories when they see the canvassers of the Social Democratic Party invading genteel doorsteps.

Westminster council is solid Tory. The Labour Party, which holds 19 of the 60 council seats, might hope in the very best of years to add ten or so to that total — not enough for control.

The Social Democrats and their Liberal allies are a wowed element; they are putting up 58 candidates and running one of the most elaborate Alliance campaigns in London; they pose the threat of uncertainty.

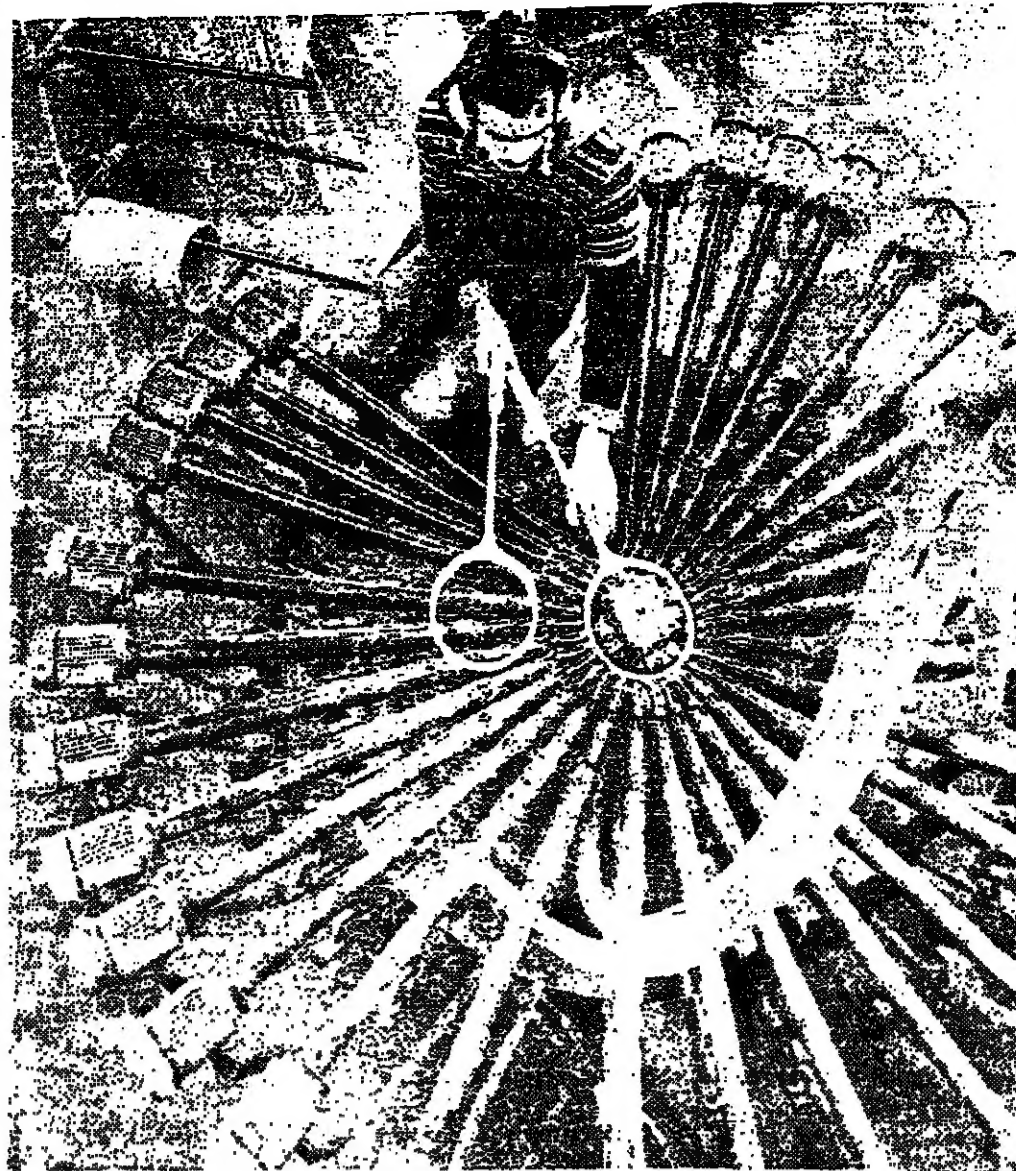
To take control, the Alliance candidates would need success in the Conservative heartlands of Knightsbridge, Belgrave and Hyde Park. On present evidence that does not seem likely. "Unthinkable" is the standard Tory reaction. None the less, canvassers with true blue rosettes are cultivating their friendly territory with unusual zeal.

Westminster stretches from Millbank to Covent Garden and from Regent's Park to Kensal Rise. Characteristically, its Tory leaders have been careful spenders of the area's remarkably high rateable income. They have also shown paternalistic concern for the borough's poor and black neighbourhoods, most of them in north Paddington. Above all they have been cautious.

In recent years, the Tory ranks have gained several young Turks who have pressed for a more active and sometimes more ideological approach. At their head is Mrs Shirley Porter, chairman of the council's highways, works and cleansing committee.

She favours a "go-go" campaign to chime with her own adventurous policies for sharpening efficiency. Mrs Porter is responsible for such schemes as the sponsorship of central London litter bins by private firms.

Her abrasive enthusiasm is not universally admired, but depending on where the Tories make the few losses



Well drilled: Mr Keith Phillips using 32 drills to bore out string holes in a squash racquet at Grays of Cambridge, who have been employing a design consultant to help them to fight back against cheap imports from Taiwan and Japan.

Alliance threat to Westminster Tories

By David Walker

For the first time since the reorganization of London local government in the early 1960s, the Borough of Westminster's Conservatives are harbouring doubts about the loyalty of the masters of Knightsbridge and the citizens of Mayfair.

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they expect, the May elections could leave her poised to become the leader of the council when the present long-serving incumbent, Mr David Cobbold, steps down.

For Labour, a big issue is housing. Ratchmanism is still a folk memory in Paddington. The core of the party's strength are the 25 per cent or so of electors who are tenants of the council, concentrated in Queen's Park, Lisson Grove, Paddington and Harrow Road.

Mr Joe Hegarty, leader of the Labour group on the council, reported that meetings in March called by his party on bus and Tube fares were well attended. "London transport fares are a vote-winning issue for us."

Whether the same can be said of Paddington's GLC representative, Mr Ken Livingstone, is not clear. The Social Democrats charged, at a press conference earlier this week, that the Labour Party has recently become left-wing. In fact in most wards its candidates are not extreme: only four out of 60 are aligned with the "London Labour Briefing" group of left-wingers.

For a new party, the SNP in Westminster has had the borough election in its sights for a surprisingly long time. Canvassing began months ago, causing some of the old hands of the other parties to wonder about the Alliance's knowledge of electoral expenses law.

Relations with the local Liberals, who have not previously been a force, have been smooth. Voluntary policy statements have been drafted, concentrated on housing.

According to Mr Guy Halliwell, a former Liberal, who has coordinated the establishment of the SNP in the borough, "it is control of the council we are aiming at and our canvass returns indicated that this is a strong possibility."

Socially, the SDP considers its support will come from disaffected council tenants who consider Labour has no chance of gaining control and who despair of the Labour Party's leftward drift from bed-sitter and other private tenants; and from middle-class residents who have been taken for granted and ignored by the Tories.

Plastic bullet boy buried amid rioting

From Richard Ford

Belfast

Blatant bombs were thrown at the police and vehicles burnt after being hijacked in Londonderry yesterday as a boy aged 14 who died on Monday, three days after being struck by a plastic bullet, was being buried.

Rioting has taken place in the city since Steven McCoomy's death and a bomb exploded in the city centre shortly before midnight on Wednesday. One of the men, aged 67, was seriously ill in hospital last night.

In the Bogside district a car belonging to a woman who has condemned all forms of violence was gutted by fire after youths attacked it for the second night running. Mrs Eileen Semple, aged 54, a widow with seven children, is chairwoman of the Bogside Women's Association, Mrs Semple's Association. She has been the target of abuse since Steven McCoomy's death, when she alleged that recent rioting in the city was part of an orchestrated campaign of violence.

In Brussels yesterday, political manoeuvring prevented the debate in the European Parliament on a resolution demanding that the use of plastic bullets be banned in all EEC member states.

It had been thought that the resolution proposed by Mr Neil Blaney, independent European MP from the Irish Republic, would be heard yesterday, but when it was decided in which order to discuss items the issue of plastic bullets was near the end.

Three people died as a result of being hit by rubber bullets between 1972-73 and a further 11, including six children, have died after being hit by plastic bullets since 1975. Seven died during the period of last year's hunger strike, including three children. Hundreds have suffered injuries, including fractured skulls.

A call for an end to the use of plastic bullets came yesterday from the National Council for Civil Liberties after a report by Lord Gifford, QC, on the death of Paul Whitty, aged 15, in Londonderry a year ago (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

The trial in Dublin of Gerard Tuohy, who once topped Scotland Yard's "most wanted" list will begin on June 21 (The Press Association reports).

The date was fixed yesterday at Dublin's Special Criminal Court. Mr Tuohy, aged 27, from Cavan, is accused of causing explosions in England between January, 1978 and March, 1979.

Overseas selling prices

Australia \$2.35	Bahrain \$0.60
Belgium \$1.85	Brazil \$0.50
Canada \$1.85	Denmark \$1.85
France \$1.85	Germany \$1.85
Greece \$1.85	India \$1.85
Italy \$1.85	Japan \$1.85
South Korea \$1.85	Spain \$1.85
Sweden \$1.85	Switzerland \$1.85
Taiwan \$1.85	Thailand \$1.85
USA \$1.85	UK \$1.85
Yugoslavia \$1.85	

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This sale will include furs to be sold by Direction of Executors; exceptionally fine quality Blacklambs, Black Jewels and Ranch. Mink coats and jackets; fine quality sable and fox jackets; fur lined raincoats; good quality musquash coats; gentlemen's fur coats; together with a fine selection of all types of fur in all price ranges, both new and secondhand.

Viewings: Thursday 27 April 10a.m.-7p.m.
Wednesday 28 April 10a.m.-4p.m.
Catalogue 50p by post.

This is the last sale of the present season. The 1982/83 season of fine fur sales opens on Thursday 9 September. Entries will be accepted for this sale from Monday 26 July.

For further information please contact Doree Rose Ext 232.
7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London, W1T 0AS Telephone 01-629 6092.

Dispute in AUEW over automation

From Donald MacIntyre, Labour Correspondent, Eastbourne

A struggle between the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' manual and white collar sections started yesterday over the control of automated machine tools, now being widely introduced in manufacturing industry.

The AUEW engineering section at a conference in Eastbourne committed itself to a series of factory-level battles against white collar unions over who should represent staff using new technology in engineering companies.

The division in likely to widen the split between the right-winged engineering section and the Communist-led white collar Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Staffs' section (AUEW Tass), which is loosely federated to it.

Tass, which is already locked in a legal battle over the future structure of the four-section AUEW, has been in the forefront of a recruitment conflict with the engineering section over who should represent technicians on the factory floor.

Yesterday's decision, carried by 55 votes to 35 against strong left-wing opposition is likely to prove the most significant taken on new technology by the AUEW manual section, which fears that its skilled members

Unions fight rail shop closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

British Rail yesterday announced its intention to close two workshops, at Horwicks Greater Manchester and Shildon, Co Durham, under plans to make 5,000 engineering employees redundant over the next year.

The management asked the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions (CSEU) to co-operate in the slimming down of its engineering division, but the unions' first response was that they would fight the closures.

Apart from the closure of the two plants, job cutbacks are scheduled at other works because of over-capacity in wagon, carriage and locomotive maintenance departments. A partial rundown of the Swindon works, once the pride of the railway system, is also in prospect.

British Rail cited a fall-off of business in the export market for wagons and a drastic reduction in the United Kingdom wagon fleet from 132,000 to 75,000 over the past two years as the cause for the redundancies.

Employment at the Derby carriage works has been secured by recently announced orders for new coaching stock for Irish and Kenyan railways worth a total of £50m.

A spokesman for the NUR said last night: "We have a policy of no works closures and no compulsory redundancies. If the British Railways board wants to go down this line it will be in a direct confrontation with the National Union of Railwaymen". He accused the board of wanting to shed assets to raise cash for the day-to-day running of the railways.

The workshops job cutbacks come at a time when the NUR leadership is under increasingly pressure from a new rank-and-file National Left movement. Mrs Porter is responsible for such schemes as the sponsorship of central London litter bins by private firms.

Her abrasive enthusiasm is not universally admired, but depending on where the Tories make the few losses

'Van did not slow down'

From Arthur Osman, Mold, Clwyd

A police van driver told senior officers after a disabled man had died from injuries received when hit by the vehicle during the disorders at Toxteth, Liverpool, last July: "At no time did I drive at anybody". Mold Crown Court, was told yesterday.

Two Merseyside police officers pleaded not guilty to unlawful killing.

The jury were also told by prosecution counsel that earlier on "confused and hectic night", a senior officer had briefed his men that they did not have general permission to use vehicles as tactical weapons.

The court heard how the Bedford Transit van, which was being used as a personnel carrier, drove on to waste land off Upper Parliament Street. It and officers had come under attack from between one and two hundred rioters throwing petrol bombs and other missiles.

The van was "gunned" at very high engine revolutions across the ground to disperse the rioters.

Constable James Keenan, aged 30, of Grassmere Avenue, the driver, and Sergeant Keith Andrew Wilkin-

son, aged 34, of Buttermere Close, Magill, said to be in charge of the vehicle, are accused of the manslaughter of David Andrew Moore, aged 23, of Avondale Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, who died on July 29 last.

Mr William Macpherson, QC, for the prosecution said that Mr Moore in company with Mr John Flynn, his brother-in-law had been crossing wasteland in the area of Upper Hunsdon Street when they encountered a group of rioters running from the police van. They could not get against the tide and turned and started to go with it.

Mr Moore, partially disabled, was hopping and attempting to run, and got on to a footpath. The van came along towards him with its headlights on, two wheels on the path and two on the waste ground.

Witnesses saw Mr Moore illuminated in the headlights and then he was struck by the vehicle, probably on its front left side. There was no slackening of its speed of about 20 mph and no brakes were applied, Mr Macpherson said. A journalist who was at the scene recorded the time

Abolition of Schools Council deplored

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Government's decision to abolish the Schools Council for Curriculum and Examinations and replace it by two smaller government-appointed quangos was condemned yesterday by opposition MPs, local authorities and teachers' organizations as another dangerous step toward greater central control.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour spokesman on education, said that the decision "could change the whole direction of the British education system."

The schools council is a charitable trust which was set up by the Government and local authorities 18 years ago to carry out research into curriculum development, teaching methods and examinations in schools.

It comprises a permanent secretariat of 131 staff and three main committees consisting of nominees of a wide variety of groups with an interest in education, including teacher unions, local authority associations, trade unions, employers, universities, examination boards, independent schools, and parents.

Its budget this year, which is shared by the Government and the local authorities, is £3.5m.

Announcing the Government's decision in the Commons yesterday, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that he and the Secretary of State for Wales had concluded that "a single body, constituted as an elaborate network of committees on the lines of the school council, is not well placed to carry out both functions" (the examinations and curriculum development).

The Government nevertheless felt the need for independent authoritative advice on how examination might best serve national aims for education. It therefore proposed the establishment of a small examinations council, appointed and funded by the Government.

It also believed there should be a small national curriculum development body with the limited task of devising syllabi, helping to fill them and assisting with the dissemination of curricular innovation.

It therefore proposed to discuss with the local authority associations the establishment of a school curriculum development council, most of whose members would be teachers, but who would be appointed by the Government in consultation. It would be financed jointly by the Government and the local authorities.

Mrs Nicole Harrison, chairman of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Education Authorities, said that they deplored the Government's decision to abolish the schools council, and viewed his proposals with disquiet.

However, Mr Alistair Lawton, chairman of the Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils, said the proposals were interesting and added that they looked forward to seeing how they would be worked out.

Mr Peter Andrews, acting chairman of the schools council and the new president of the Secondary Heads Association, said the decision to replace the quango by two "quangos" showed that the work of the schools council was essential. But he regarded it as a political move.

Most of the teacher unions echoed Mr Andrews' views, but in more forthright terms.

Mr William Stubbs, director of education (schools) for the Inner London Education Authority since 1979, has been selected as the authoritative next education officer in succession to Mr Peter Newsam, who leaves this autumn to become chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality. Mr Stubbs, aged 44, will be in control of an annual budget of about £800m.

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By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
The Government's decision to abolish the Schools Council and replace it by the smaller government-run Education Committee has been deplored by educationists. The Schools Council was set up in 1973 to co-ordinate the efforts of local education authorities and the Department of Education in the field of curriculum and examinations. It was a joint venture between the two bodies and was given a budget of £100 million. The Schools Council was widely regarded as a success and its abolition has been deplored by educationists. The Education Committee, which will take over the Schools Council's functions, is seen as a less effective body. The Schools Council was a unique body and its abolition will mean the end of a successful experiment in co-operation between the government and local education authorities.

Mr. Neil Hinnock, Labour spokesman on education, said that the decision to abolish the Schools Council was a "major step back" for the government. He said that the Schools Council had been a success and that its abolition would mean the end of a successful experiment in co-operation between the government and local education authorities. He said that the Education Committee, which will take over the Schools Council's functions, is seen as a less effective body. The Schools Council was a unique body and its abolition will mean the end of a successful experiment in co-operation between the government and local education authorities.

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Mrs Williams calls for inquiry on Cleeland case

By Frances Gibb

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP MP for Crosby, is to ask Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, if he will order either an inquiry into a retrial of the case of Paul Cleeland, a Stevenage decorator serving a 20-year prison sentence for murder. An investigation by *The Times* published on Wednesday raised serious doubts about the conviction of Cleeland for the murder of Terry Clarke, a scaffolder, and added strength to the repeated requests by Mrs Williams and others for the Home Office to publish its own confidential report on the case. Yesterday Mrs Williams, who was formerly Paul Cleeland's MP, said there were sufficient doubts to justify a further examination of the case. "Obviously one cannot be 100 per cent certain that Paul Cleeland is innocent, but there is a high probability that he is, and a right course of action would now be to investigate the possibility of an inquiry being set up."

Her own efforts on behalf of Cleeland eventually led to a Home Office inquiry under Mr E. J. Boothby, assistant Chief Constable of Northamptonshire, after the discovery of an extraordinary sequence of errors in Mr Cleeland's prison record.

"It was only after numerous attempts that we were able to get these records put right," Mrs Williams said. "We got nowhere by going through normal processes with the Home Office. It was only eventually on the instructions of Roy Jenkins as Home Secretary that the records were ordered to be put right."

Yet the Home Office report still remains secret. Both Mrs Williams and Mr Bowen Wells, Mr Cleeland's present MP, have repeatedly asked to see it but have been refused. Mrs Williams said: "I then asked to see the report in my

Body could be woman who escaped

From our Correspondent

A CID chief revealed yesterday that the naked remains of an unidentified woman could be those of a convicted killer who escaped from prison three years ago.

Det Chief Supt Strickland Carter, who has led an eight-month investigation to identify the skeletal remains discovered in a North Yorkshire beauty spot, said yesterday he believes the woman could be Geraldine Elizabeth Crawley, a mother of two, who was 31 when she absconded from Askham Grange women's open prison, near York, in September, 1979. She had served only four months of a three-year sentence for killing an old woman in Liverpool.

The petite Irish brunette, who had lived in Texteth, where the killing took place, walked out of the prison gates after finishing her duties in the grounds. She has never been seen since.

She left behind two young sons and a man with whom she lived. Her sons, both aged under 10, are living with foster parents in the Liverpool area and know nothing of their mother's past.

Two years after Crawley escaped detectives acting on anonymous telephone information found the remains of a woman in her thirties in thick undergrowth at Sutton Bank, about 30 miles from Askham Grange prison.

Police scientists established that the remains had lain undisturbed only yards from a busy road for at least 12 months, and possibly up to two years.

Crawley's dental records matched those in the remains, complete with top denture, evidence suggested that the dead woman had been a heavy smoker and that she had grown up in an area with a high fluoride content in its water, such as her birthplace in Dublin.

The date of Crawley's escape from prison, her height, bone structure and the fact that she had borne children all fitted with evidence that forensic scientists gleaned from examining the skeleton.

But yesterday Mr Carter added a new dimension to the mystery with the news that after she escaped, Crawley's sister in Australia told her that she had received a letter from Crawley, who was posted in Yorkshire from Geraldine, and later spoke to her by telephone.

Yesterday, Mr Carter, who has supervised the combing of well over 100 missing person files since the investigation began last August, appealed for Crawley to get in touch with him if she was still alive.

"If she is still alive it may be that she has started a new life with a fresh identity," he said. "A single thumbprint on a piece of white paper would prove that she was still alive and could be ruled out of his investigation."

Trust will tighten land rules

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Leaders of the National Trust have decided privately to take a stricter line with public bodies that want to build on its property.

Embarrassment about its decision to allow the Ministry of Defence to build an underground bunker on a trust farm has convinced the leaders that there is too much risk in such cases of political entanglement.

The decision to allow the ministry a lease to build on about a hundredth of the 1,100-acre Bradenham estate, near High Wycombe, has caused two critics of the trust's council of 52 members. One is that it is dangerous to allow development of land given on condition that it would be protected against sale by the trust's power to declare property inalienable.

The other comes from peace groups who opposed the building on trust land of a key military installation which will house command headquarters for United Kingdom air defence and Nato air forces.

The council faces further controversy when opponents of the leasing decision discover that it will be almost impossible to reverse quickly by constitutional means. Opponents are trying to obtain the 500 signatures of trust members needed for a special general meeting to be called. But such a meeting could not instruct the council to revoke the lease.

The constitution of the trust is backed by a succession of statutes, of which the latest says that acts of the council will be "deemed valid in all respects" as long as half of its members have been elected. About a third of the elected members come up for reelection at each annual meeting.

The 26 non-elected members are appointed from a list of organisations such as the trustees of the British Museum and the Ramblers Association. The list is reviewed every six years, and the next change for members to change it by vote will be at the annual meeting in November.

Power prices 'raised by nuclear costs'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The reason for the price of electricity rising much faster than the rate of inflation over the past few years lies in the high costs to the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) of its nuclear energy programme.

Mr Colin Sweet, director of the Centre for Energy Studies in London, said yesterday that assertion was made when he introduced *The Costs of Nuclear Power*, an analysis prepared at the centre. It is published by the Anti Nuclear Campaign as part of its build-up of opposition to plans to build 10 of the American designed pressurised water reactors (PWRs), in Britain in the 10 years from 1984.

Mr Sweet says the price of coal sold to the generating stations has been held in line with inflation, and even the high price of oil since 1979 cannot be blamed for the rising price of electricity. Hence his argument that the effect of the high capital spending on nuclear stations is coming home to roost.

But it is on the implication for future prices of electricity that his analysis focuses attention, if the proposed vast expansion with PWRs goes ahead. Mr Sweet is adamant that none of the available evidence substantiates the repeated allegation by the electricity industry, the Atomic Energy Authority and the Department of Energy that nuclear power is a cheap energy option.

He argues that the CEGB is doing itself and the consumer a disservice by concentrating on building a group of very large and very expensive nuclear stations. Mr Sweet

says: "The matter of nuclear cost is not only understated, it is one of the key propositions which must be proved at the public inquiry into plans for the first PWR at Sizewell, in Suffolk."

The Department of Energy estimate for the PWR nuclear programme is £15,000m. Mr Sweet's analysis produces an estimate of more than £35,000m, a sum which exceeds the investment in the programme.

Past experience of the gap between original estimate and the eventual cost, time and performance of almost every project in the civil nuclear programme forms an important ingredient in the analysis.

Mr Sweet says the price of electricity, is supposed to reflect the real costs of generating it in its production (which he says the CEGB figures do not), and the price is comparable to another. Again, he says, that is not possible with available CEGB information.

He lists other data affecting the price of electricity where, in his view, the board fails to meet basic requirements. These are that the board never includes the largest costs for research and development; does not usually include the full capital cost; has not always included interest charges during construction or interest charges on stored fuel; bases its data on notional operating costs, which are always an overstatement of the actual operating costs of nuclear stations, and consistently understates nuclear fuel costs relative to coal.

'Pandora's box' in broadcast changes

By Kenneth Gosling

New broadcasting developments by satellite, cable, tapes and discs were bound to throw off balance traditions of control and regulation built up by countries over the years when opportunities for broadcasting were scarce, Lord Thomson of Monifieth, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said yesterday. He made his comments to *The Times* after this week's debate on broadcasting.

The locks seemed to have been removed, Lord Thomson said, from a Pandora's box stuffed with problems for politicians and the public to resolve.

But as well as satellites and cable, Lord Thomson pointed out that significant, unregulated broadcasting innovation was already here, and in a big way. Through video recording, on tape or disc, the public, he said, was now able still further to extend its freedom of choice.

Lord Thomson said he believed that many people would want to question whether the kind of uninhibited approach to broadcasting that exists in the United States had served the interests of the public as well as

the British tradition of public service broadcasting built on the Reithian foundations of control and regulation in the service of broad social purposes.

"Might not therefore some consideration of social purposes in respect of these new technologies be valuable as a guide to the future?" he asked.

On whether the state should accept a responsibility for these new services, Lord Thomson said that cable and satellites were likely to provide services that could be received unselectively, like the existing services.

"They go into the family sitting-room available to children on touching the button. They are distinctly different from the act of choice in buying a video cassette or a theatre ticket."

If the present close degree of regulation became inappropriate and, in any case, impractical, Lord Thomson asked whether there were any half-way houses short of the total deregulation some people were advocating. He said he foresaw a further area of public concern as being over political balance, and wondered



Catherine Bailey, aged two, seemed more interested in the Lord Mayor's chain than a storybook when Sir Christopher Leaver and the Lady Mayoress visited the new Barbican library yesterday.

Silicon Glen lures £400m investment

From Jonathan Wills, Glasgow

"Silicon Glen" used to be a catch phrase employed by public relations men to attract microchip business to Scotland. The cliché has now come true.

According to the Scottish Development Agency, the best place in Europe for investment in the booming microchip business is Scotland. The cliché has now come true.

The agency unveiled a report yesterday to publicise Scotland's electronic achievements and attract further investment in computer graphics, robotics, data matrices and video display units.

Agency officials noted that even the Japanese wanted to invest in Silicon Glen. American firms were eager to make electronic wafers near Dollar, and the French and the Germans showed interest too.

About £400m has been invested in Silicon Glen over the past five years. Already 4,000 lowland Scots are employed by more than 200 electronics firms. That puts Scotland in the world class, the report says.

A key factor has been the great reserve of expertise on Scottish higher education. The country's eight universities and 25 technical colleges help new and established companies to design machines which remove the need for skilled and unskilled labour alike.

Defence and space electronics are a forte of such Scottish-based companies as Ferranti.

Mr Alexander Fletcher, the Scottish Minister for Industry, was present to give the proceedings the seal of approval and to apply the plans of the agency's new electronics division, which has a budget of £10m.

Mr Fletcher radiated optimism about the new industry, as well he might. His job, at least, is too complicated to be taken over by the robots.

Indian to appeal on language bar to benefit

From Our Correspondent

An Indian woman who has been refused supplementary benefit because she cannot speak English is to appeal to the Social Security Commissioners in London.

Mrs Patamash Varachis, aged 48, who lives with her son in High Street, Tredworth, Gloucester, was refused benefit last year because social security officials said that by failing to learn the language she had disqualified herself from getting a job.

Whether it would be said that the kind of balance imposed on British broadcasters was to be given up.

"Do we take it for granted that, with cable and satellite services, privately owned, some kind of balance will emerge overall?" he said. "I can only register as a fact that the public control of broadcasting has preserved a healthier balance and done a great deal more to create an informed and sceptical democracy than the private ownership of the press."

The Irish Supreme court has ruled that Irish cable relay companies who diffuse British radio and television broadcasts require the permission of the owners of the copyright in the musical works used in those broadcasts.

The court fully upheld the decision of the High Court in an action brought by Performing Rights Society against Marlin Commercial Aerials Ltd (now Dublin Cablesystems Ltd). The Society succeeded in a claim for copyright infringement by reason of the cabling of independent television broadcasts containing copyright musical works.

Pollution threat by reservoir critics

By Craig Seton

A group opposed to the building of a new reservoir in farm land in the Roadford Valley, in west Devon, is threatening deliberately to pollute the river Tamar if the scheme goes ahead.

The threat was made at the end of a third public inquiry this week into the proposed size of the reservoir, whose siting on 730 acres of the valley has already been accepted by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The scheme has for years run into intense opposition from the National Farmer's Union, Mr Peter Mills, Conservative MP for Devon, West, more than a dozen farmers who will be affected, and other residents in the valley.

They are still fighting the choice of site and although that decision has already been made, and insist that the reservoir should be on Dartmoor and not on agricultural land.

Mrs Rosemary Cook, the wife of a farmer whose land at Broadwoodwider, near Liston, is not affected by the scheme, said yesterday that her 12-member Roadford Valley Defence Committee would contaminate the Tamar, which runs between Devon and Cornwall, if the valley was flooded.

She said the Tamar was visited by tens of thousands of people a year and the plan to pollute it would be accompanied by an intensive publicity campaign to draw the public's attention to the "damned stupid" plan for the reservoir.

There is an enormous amount of waste land on the moor near by, but they are going to flood good, profitable farm land which produces enormous amounts of beef, sheep and corn. We hope it will not come to it, but if they flood the Roadford Valley we will carry out our threat," she said.

The water authority has refused to identify the other members of the defence committee, accused Mr Heseltine and the South West Water Authority of agreeing to the Roadford site rather than one on moorland near by because of the strength of the Dartmoor Preservation Society, which she said was violently opposed to the use of any more land for the reservoir.

The water authority has found that the Roadford scheme has become its most difficult plan since it was put forward eight years ago. Three public inquiries have been held into the scheme. The first led to a recommendation from the inquiry inspector that Roadford should be the site. A second was held into the possible effects on the strength of the water authority's dam, which is to be a quarter of a mile long.

The third inquiry was held over two days this week on the directions of Mr Heseltine, who wanted the water authority to reconsider the reservoir's size. The water authority is insisting that the size should remain as planned.

The water authority has spent up to £1m buying up farming land and property. It said yesterday that it did not take Mrs Cook's threat too seriously, but if people acted illegally it would call in the full force of the law. A decision on the size of the reservoir by the new public inquiry is not expected for several months.

The stress of flying west

By Felicity Jones

Over a two-year period nearly 200 people were admitted to a psychiatric hospital straight from Heathrow airport suffering from mental illness. It was often related to the rapid time-zone changes experienced by air travellers.

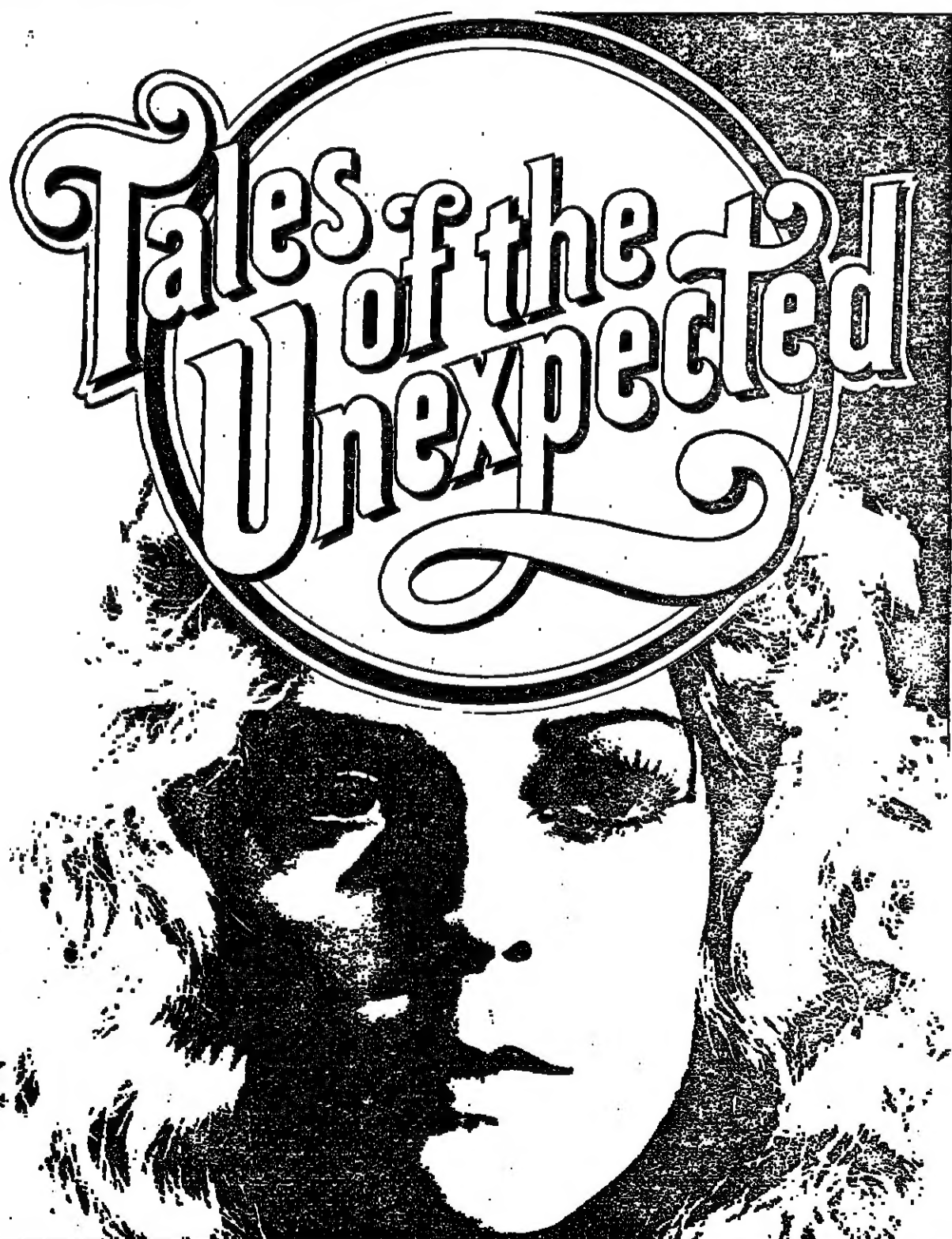
Research by two consultant psychiatrists who investigated admissions to St Bernard's Hospital in Southall, between 1976 and 1978, discovered that depression was found significantly more frequently in passengers travelling from east to west.

Any person assessed as suffering from mental illness at the airport is taken to the hospital for treatment. Of 186 admitted, 93 were diagnosed as a schizophrenic and of those, 24 were found "simply wandering" at the airport.

The admissions from Heathrow airport accounted for 22 per cent of all schizophrenic patients admitted to the hospital according to a report in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*.

Depression was significantly triggered by flights from east to west and the researchers add that the data support a proposal that "time zone changes precipitate affective illness in predisposed individuals".

Conditions brought about by alcohol withdrawal and drugs were relatively rare and in the cases of schizophrenia men outnumbered women.



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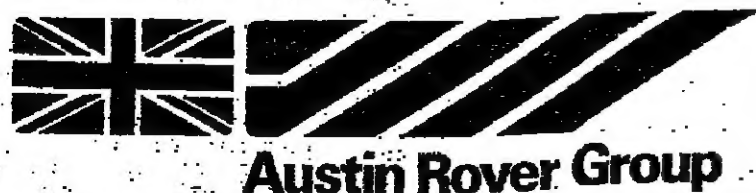
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Heffer thinks Labour will fight Euro-elections

From George Clark, Strasbourg

Mr Eric Heffer, Labour's spokesman on European affairs, who was in Strasbourg yesterday to meet members of the socialist group of the European Parliament, said he believed that although there was pressure from some sections of the party to boycott the next direct elections to the Strasbourg parliament, the party would decide to fight.

He agreed with Mrs Barbara Castle, leader of the Labour group of MEPs, that even with the election of a Labour government committed to taking Britain out of the EEC it would be an advantage to have Labour MEPs elected in June, 1982, to use the Strasbourg Parliament as a platform for explaining Labour's policy and trying to get the help of sister socialist parties in facilitating Britain's withdrawal.

Mr Heffer said he did not think there would be a change in the attitude of the trade unions to Labour's official policy on withdrawal, but at union conferences this summer there could be a move towards backing a referendum in advance of a final decision to get the electorate's views on the issue of continuing in the EEC.

Mrs Castle thought the party would reject that. The election manifesto would be specific, and would in effect be a referendum in the issue. If there was another referendum all the resources of pro-European parties and big business would be thrown behind the campaign, she said.

But a confidential document in the hands of members of the national executive committee, which was committed to withdrawing from the EEC institutions, including the Parliament, British Labour Party may not get a subvention from European funds in running the European election campaign.

Party research department for the NEC European Liaison Committee and the international and organization subcommittees, the document states: "In 1979 the party spent just under £200,000 in the campaign, a sum which was reimbursed from funds provided by the European Assembly to the socialist group and by them to the Confederation of EEC Socialist Parties."

The fact that we are unlikely to be able to agree a framework manifesto with other members of the Confederation of Socialist Parties

Orchestra offers concerts for sale

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

The London Philharmonic Orchestra, celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year, is launching an ambitious campaign to attract sponsorship for its jubilee year in which they can buy the orchestra for a concert.

An advertising programme accompanying the project will link the concerts directly to the sponsors with such slogans as "Catch the 1812" courtesy of British Rail, "Pictures at an exhibition" provided by Kodak, and "Pastoral Symphony presented by Cow and Gate".

The orchestra's new approach to sponsorship involves companies buying a "share" in its fiftieth anniversary season. It is seeking 10 companies prepared to pay a share of £30,000 each. For that there will be an LPO concert at the Festival Hall in their name, prominent advertising and publicity and 40 seats and a reception with members of the orchestra on the evening of the concert.

However, the sponsors will not be allowed to choose the programme. They will have the choice of the LPO's programme for the 1982-83 season, which has already been drawn up. But the orchestra does not rule out the possibility of special "clients" asking for particular works, and when it gives concerts sponsored by Mars Ltd in Slough later this year the LPO will by request include Holst's suite, *The Planets*, in the programme.

It is intended that each of the 10 £30,000 shares will provide the orchestra with £10,000 of direct income. The remaining £20,000 will go to the orchestra's publicity campaign. To help to promote the package, the LPO, a self-governing body, owned by its players, has appointed an advertising agency. The project was launched on Wednesday at a special concert in the main auditorium at Christie's, where the music was suitably wide-ranging, from Mozart to *Olivera*.



Mr Gerry Branch kissing the hand of the Queen Mother during her tour of Smithfield market.

Smithfield welcomes the Queen Mother

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, who is an honorary member of the Butchers' Company, was greeted with kisses, flowers and Cockney humour when she visited Smithfield Market, in London yesterday.

As she arrived at the market she was greeted with the refrain, "Maybe it's because she's a Londoner", and she hardly stepped inside before a Mr Gerry Branch, a cutter, had planted two kisses on her hand.

"You look very lovely today", Mr Branch said "You met me in 1963, do you remember me." The Queen Mother looked bemused, so Mr

Branch added: "Of course I'm a lot better looking nowadays".

Later the Queen Mother could not fail to notice Mr Sean Burnage, aged 32, who was flag draped and wearing a red, white and blue hat. "You look very patriotic", she remarked.

The Queen Mother, dressed in pale blue, took up the challenge from Mr Ronald Wise, who reminded her that the Prince of Wales pushed a barrow when he visited the market two years ago. "I'll push one when I come back next year", she said.

Mr Jimmy Ellis and Mr Eddie Kanter had brought children,

helped by the Variety Club of Great Britain, to see the Queen Mother and it was they who started the singing. Others took up the refrain: "We'll be loving her, always", and as she left, more than half an hour later, the market workers burst into "Rule Britannia".

During her visit the Queen Mother was presented with 120lb of beef from a beast raised by Mr Dennis Cowe, an Aberdeenshire farmer.

The visit marked the centenary of the first shipment of New Zealand meat to Britain and the Queen Mother was also presented with two New Zealand lambs

Countryside remains popular

Suburban countryside had failed to divert family outings from remote beauty spots, Mr Adrian Phillips, director general of the Countryside Commission, said yesterday (our Environment Correspondent writes).

He was speaking at a London conference about research which showed that the attraction of the "urban fringe" had failed to protect more desirable countryside from tourist pressures.

The quarter of England's countryside which is considered "urban fringe" was seen in the early 1970s as a tourist conduit that would protect important conservation areas deep in the countryside from crowds of sightseers and picnic parties.

Mr Phillips said that surveys of countryside on the edge of London showed that it was being used as an alternative to city parks and not to remote rural areas. Very few families in the urban fringe had travelled more than three miles to it.

17,000 animals used in tests

Seventeen thousand animals were used in experiments at the Government's secret Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire, last year. About a quarter died.

The total, which includes mice, rats, guinea pigs, dogs, sheep, rabbits, pigs, and marmosets, is lower than in previous years. Reducing more tissue culture experiments which do not involve living animals.

The figures were released before an animal rights demonstration at Porton tomorrow by the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection.

Winning pools stake stolen

A schoolgirl collector who stole football stake money was found out when a syndicate of women factory workers submitted a claim thinking they had won nearly £136,000, magistrates at Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, heard yesterday.

Helen Williams, of Pencoed, Bridgend, a Girl Guide patrol leader, who at an earlier hearing admitted purloining the syndicate's £3.30 weekly stake, her own bank account six times, was fined £80 for theft and ordered to pay £20 costs and £19.80 compensation.

Widen lorry bans councils told

The Government has told local councils in a circular to do more to keep heavy lorries out of towns and villages by imposing more lorry bans, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday.

The circular comes at a time when the Government is preparing to announce its decision on a future maximum size of heavy lorries. It is widely expected that Mr Howell will come down in favour of a 40-ton limit, against the existing 32 tons.

Muggers injure woman aged 65

Mrs Irene Richardson, aged 65, was in hospital yesterday after two schoolboy muggers snatched her handbag containing £300 holiday money as she was walking home after a bingo session.

Richardson, of Oak Hill Farm, South Yorkshire, suffered a broken hip when the youths pushed her to the ground and dragged her as she tried to hold on to the bag.

Fan aged 13 dies in bus stoning

Alexander Linton, aged 13, a football supporter, of Easterhouse, Glasgow, died on the top-deck of a bus on Wednesday night after a gang of youths hurled stones at the bus and hit him. Police yesterday launched a murder inquiry.

The incident happened at the junction of Hallhill Road and Edinburgh Road after the game between Celtic and Dundee United.

New location for murder trial

The trial of a man accused of three murders was adjourned at Leeds Crown Court yesterday so that it can be heard outside Yorkshire.

Andrew Mark Watson, aged 26, a labourer, of Wakefield, Garforth, West Yorkshire, has pleaded not guilty to all three murder charges and not guilty to three charges of conspiracy to prevent the burial of three bodies.

Paul Anthony Hobson, aged 26, a yard foreman, of Wakefield, Road, Garforth, has pleaded guilty to the same charges. Sentence has been postponed until after Mr Watson's trial. The application for the trial to be switched from Leeds was made by Mr Watson's counsel.

Lords uphold police in cannabis case

The police were fully justified in prosecuting a youth for possessing minute traces of cannabis, the House of Lords ruled today. In a decision of importance to prosecuting authorities, five Law Lords unanimously allowed an appeal by Cambridgeshire police against a Court of Appeal ruling that Peregrine Boyesen, aged 18, was not guilty of possessing the drug.

The Court of Appeal had quashed the Cambridge Crown Court conviction against Boyesen, a leather cutter, of Wetherby, Lincolnshire, on the grounds that the quantity of cannabis found on him could not be regarded as "usable".

The Court of Appeal judges criticized the prosecution as "offensive" and said it was wrong to bring the "whole machinery of the law" into play to prosecute a man who had only five milligrammes of cannabis resin. One milligram would cover a pinhead.

But Lord Scarman said yesterday that the "usability" test adopted by the Court of Appeal was incorrect in law.

The judge's criticism of the prosecuting authority and the trial judge, Judge Wild, was not justified, he said. The Chief Constable of Cambridge, who authorized the prosecution, was fully justified in doing so.

Lord Scarman said the prosecution had to show there was some recognizable quantity of the drug in the accused's possession. If not, there was no offence. "But the view that possession is only serious enough if the quantity is capable of being misused is a highly dubious one", he said.

Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge of Harwich agreed in allowing the police appeal and restoring Boyesen's conviction by a jury.

Boyesen's lawyers said it was not known whether he would have to pay the £25 fine and £150 costs order made against him in the Crown Court.

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Doctor objects to drugs 'consent' law

Strong objections to the proposed legislation on mental health, which says that drugs should be given to patients only with their consent, came yesterday from Dr Edgar Udwin, medical director of Broadmoor, the special hospital for mentally abnormal offenders.

He told the Commons standing committee on the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill that the proposal that a second medical opinion should be given when a patient refused drugs could hinder the patient's treatment.

At Broadmoor that would mean bringing in an independent doctor to agree a course of treatment about twice a day where the patient did not consent. "It is my hope that Clause 41 will be amended to the point where it is possible to give one's patient at all times a tranquilizer or an aspirin", he said.

The anti-depressants and the tranquilizers bear the same relationship to psychiatry as the chemotherapeutic agents and the antibiotics do to physical medicine.

"It has been the experience of all of us that the resentment caused by the imposition of treatment at an early stage of mental illness is followed by assent and even gratitude when the treatment is successful, as it is in so many cases."

Dr Udwin said he agreed with the other safeguards in the Bill in consent to treatment for brain surgery, electric shocks and hormone therapy. But he thought medication was in a different category and that patients' complaints about drugs could be referred to the proposed new Mental Health Act Commission.

He also defended Section 141 of the Mental Health Act, which says that patients cannot sue staff over detention, but that they can sue if they are injured by anything unless they show that the person acted in bad faith or without reasonable care and unless they can get the permission of a High Court judge.

MIND, the Mental Health charity, is trying to have that changed, ultimately through two cases now before the European Commission of Human Rights. But Dr Udwin said the section should stay to protect nurses from vexatious law suits.

He also called for the law on censorship of patients' correspondence to remain. Letters in and out of special hospitals can be stopped. Under the new law such hospitals will be able to scrutinize only incoming mail.

Dr Udwin said that could cause "terrible distress" to the victims of such letters, who could be the subject of death threats.

Earlier in the session Sir Wilfred Bourne, permanent secretary in the Lord Chancellor's Department, announced that the government had decided to extend aid by way of representation to patients appearing before tribunals. It has been under strong pressure to do that for a long time. Sir Wilfred said the change would apply in late summer or early in the autumn.

Merger for Whitehall waste unit

The unit investigating Whitehall efficiency under the direction of Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on eliminating waste, is to be merged with the newly created management department of the Civil Service, it was announced yesterday.

The Rayner unit, at present based in the Cabinet Office, is being integrated early next month into the Management and Personnel Office, which hived off the efficiency function when the Civil Service Department was disbanded last November.

The MPO then took over broad responsibility for personnel management and the Treasury for pay.

The move, which seems certain to be viewed as a potential blurring of the unit's cutting edge, will mean that Mr Clive Gillingham, its head, will report to Mr John Cassels, Second Permanent Secretary at the MPO, and not to Sir Derek. Sir Derek vice-chairman of Marks and Spencer, will continue to advise Mrs Margaret Thatcher on efficiency.

The change coincides with the announcement by the MPO of an "action plan" for the coming year in which it promises a joint initiative with the Treasury to improve financial management in the Civil Service, and a special review of staff selection and training.

Emphasis will be put on broadening the experience of potential "high fliers" and securing more job interchange with industry and the private sector; the latter is an aim that has proved noticeably difficult to achieve.

Lady Young, Lord Privy Seal, the minister in charge of the Rayner approach, to continue it must become a permanent and accepted part of Civil Service work. Integrating the Rayner unit within the MPO would help to achieve that.



Spectacular success: Mr Bill Black, of South Shields, with some of the thousands of spectacles which he and members of the Harton Rotary Club have collected to send to Third World countries.

Tapping rules queried

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, was accused yesterday by the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCCL) of "slipping over" an important change in the law on telephone tapping through a written answer to a parliamentary question.

The Home Office said last night that the change, which extends the types of crime for which interception of telephone calls or mail are allowable, was already in operation.

Interception is permissible for crimes classed as "really serious", although it may

also be authorized in two categories of less serious offences.

Those are when either a large number of people are involved or violence is expected. Otherwise, "really serious" means a crime for which a man with no previous record could be expected to get three years' imprisonment.

To the less serious category Mr Whitelaw has now added, without debate or public discussion, crimes in which financial rewards are "very large". No sum is

Heritage trust fund dreads a big claim

By A Staff Reporter

The honeymoon period enjoyed by the hundreds of the nation's heritage trusts, which saw the rescue of historic houses such as Canons Ashby and of endangered species such as the greater horseshoe bat, may about to end. Today, St George's Day, it is two years since Mr Norman St John-Stevas, then arts minister, announced at a private party the birth of the National Heritage Memorial Fund.

Set up in the aftermath of the furore over Ashmolean, the home of Lord Rosebery, which the government refused to buy, the fund's purpose was to act as a safety net against the loss of works of art, stretches of land and other items of the national heritage.

So far its trustees, who include university professors, peers and a trade union leader, have been extremely successful.

But how long can it last? In the next 12 months there will be a question mark over some five outstanding estates, each of which could bring a claim of £3m on the fund's total capital of £15m.

Last week it was disclosed that North Yorkshire County Council wanted to sell the twelfth-century ruins of Fountains Abbey and its estates. Shortly before that the proposed sale of Haver Castle was announced and other owners are equally hard pressed. The fund is facing the possibility of Lord Scarsdale's Kedleston Hall, Lord Bradford's Weston Park and Lord Exeter's Burghley House coming on to the market.

"If these came up, the total could clean us out", Mr Brian Lang, the fund's secretary, said. "The Government is supposed to give help if there is a disproportionate claim for money, but that seems highly unlikely in the present circumstances."

"We are in a double bind. If we spend all our capital we can no longer operate as an emergency fund, yet if we do not, the Government can accuse us of not using our resources."

Lord Charteris of Amfield, the trustees' chairman, foresaw the problem in his first annual report. He wrote: "Our great fear is that we may be faced with a sudden decision to dispose of an entire house and its contents like Mentmore. Our resources could not cope with such a sale." The National Heritage was under going continual erosion, he said.

"The National Trusts cannot be expected to accept the burden of any more houses and we cannot be expected regularly to endow such houses as Canons Ashby."

He said the trustees were worried by continuing pressure on owners of important heritage items to dispose of them to meet tax demands or to cope with recession and provide for the future.

The trustees do not want the fund to exist solely for the big items. So far they have steered a skilful balance, earning criticism both for "frittering their money on small items" and for spending too much on national institutions, a sure sign of a middle course.

Therapist jobs unfilled

By Jeanette Mitchell

The health and social services are so short of occupational therapists that half of the posts are vacant, the British Association of Occupational Therapists says.

Britain's 3,000 occupational therapists help people who have been in hospital, particularly the elderly, to lead a normal life again. With the elderly population increasing at the rate of 2 per cent a year and government policy centred on community rather than residential care, occupational therapists are considered to have an increasingly important role.

Air Vice-Marshal David Dick, secretary of the association, said yesterday: "Some consultants are no longer referring patients for therapy because the waiting lists are so long."

The shortage, because of a lack of trained staff, has been made worse, the association says, by government cuts in grants to occupational therapy students.

Last year 34 of 551 places in training schools were not filled because of a reduction in the number of grants given by the Department of Health and Social Security. This year the association fears that fewer places will be available.

Restraint plea by Arafat after Israeli air raids

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, April 22

Mr. Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, has persuaded most of the extremist Palestinian leaders in Beirut not to respond to yesterday's Israeli bombing raid on Lebanon by restarting the conflict in southern Lebanon.

But the Palestinian-Israeli ceasefire — as arranged a truce as any arranged in Lebanon — remains both tentative and dangerous, with at least one PLO faction claiming that it no longer exists.

Mr. Arafat's efforts came after an indirect message from the American Government — reportedly to him by a Saudi diplomat and Mr. Chirif Wazzan, the Lebanese Prime Minister — warning him that any Palestinian attacks on the Kibbutzim of Northern Galilee would provide an excuse for the Israelis to stage a full-scale invasion of Lebanon.

It was primarily for this reason that the PLO responded to the Israeli raid by claiming that it would "retaliate" where and when it sees fit — a formula that clearly implies a Palestinian attack against Israel from Jordan or from inside the West Bank.

The PLO's more intransigent factions did their best to cloak their restraint with a series of words, but they found it difficult to conceal their intention of maintaining a truce — unilaterally, if necessary — in southern Lebanon.

The popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, for instance, announced that it is "going to strike against Israel from inside Israel and from outside Israel, and not necessarily from southern Lebanon."

This does not mean, however, that every PLO group will obey Mr. Arafat's instructions. The pro-Moscow Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has developed the habit of claiming responsibility for attacks on Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza. One more such claim in the next few days could be used by Israel as a pretext for further air attacks upon Lebanon.

In Southern Lebanon, officers of the PLO's Fatah guerrilla movement promised to follow Mr. Arafat's order, claiming that the Israelis were trying to appease the Jewish settlers refusing to leave the Sinai town of Yamir.

However, Israeli aircraft could be seen all day in the skies of southern Lebanon, watched by Palestinian anti-aircraft gunners on the coastal highway around Tyre. During the morning, Israeli jets made their regular photo-reconnaissance run over Beirut, drawing the usual fire from the Palestinian camps.

The PLO permitted journalists to enter their base at Mazbouh, 19 miles from Beirut, which was one of yesterday's bombing targets. Three heavy artillery pieces, several Katyusha rocket launchers and a number of cars had been destroyed in the raid. The Lebanese authorities now put the number of dead at 23.

In Damascus today, the Syrian government denounced yesterday's raids as "a barbaric attack" and Syrian state radio asserted that Syria would "confront any new Israeli move in Lebanon".

In the familiar rhetoric it uses on such occasions, the broadcast claimed that "Arab skies will not be open for enemy arrogance irrespective of costs, sacrifices or whatever it takes".

This was scarcely proved yesterday when two Syrian jets were shot down over the Bekaa Valley by Israeli aircraft. The machines — both Mig 23s — were destroyed, although the pilots baled out by parachute, landing rather inconveniently in territory controlled by the right-wing Phalangist movement, who bear no love for Syria.

But the Phalangist leader, Mr. Bashir Gemayel, handed them over to the Lebanese authorities in Beirut last night with much pomp and publicity. It was the first time that the Syrians had put their Mig 23 fighter aircraft into combat over Lebanon. Previously they have confronted the Israelis there only with veteran Mig 21 jets.



'World doctor' awarded Onassis prize

From Mario Modiano, Athens, April 22

Dr. Bernard Kouchner, the French physician who founded Doctors of the World, a society of volunteers who offered medical relief in distressed areas, and Professor Manolis Andronikos, the Greek archaeologist who discovered the royal tombs of Macedonia at Vergina, today received the Alexander Onassis prize for 1981 presented by President Karamanlis.

The prizes carry a cash award of \$100,000 (£55,000). Dr. Kouchner, who received the Athenian prize for promoting "the rapprochement of peoples and upholding the dignity of man," said the money would go, symbolically, to El Salvador and Afghanistan.

Doctors of the World consists of volunteers, nurses and physicians who devote a few months of their lives to work without pay in places hit by disasters. They have worked in South-East Asia, Central America, Africa, Afghanistan and Poland.

Dr. Kouchner said: "For us oppression of the right and of the left is identical." Professor Andronikos received the Olympia prize awarded for contributions to the safeguarding of man's cultural heritage.

Ecevit men face death on plotting charges

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara, April 22

Two former deputies from Mr. Bülent Ecevit's former Republican People's Party appeared in a military court in Erzurum, eastern Turkey, today on capital charges of forcefully attempting to overthrow the constitutional order.

Mr. Ertuğrul Günsay and Mr. Temel Ates, were detained in 1980 on charges of assisting the underground "Dev-Yol" (Revolutionary Path) organization in building up "liberated zones" in their constituency. They were released after 14 months in detention only to be re-arrested recently at the request of the Erzurum court.

Mr. Ecevit himself, detained earlier in the month over an alleged statement to a Norwegian newspaper, remains in custody here. Mr. Mustafa Ustundag, the former secretary-general of the party, and a number of leading party deputies are undergoing investigation.

So far, of the original 587 leaders, militants and sympathisers of the extreme right-wing Nationalist Action Party indicted at the current mass trial of the rightists, 187 have been released. Mr. Ecevit is also the subject of an investigation, along with 132 of his former deputies, over alleged support to the Marxist-oriented Progressive Trade Unions Confederation (Disk).

Brezhnev reappears in public looking fit

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, April 22

President Brezhnev reappeared in public today after an absence of almost a month, looking reasonably fit and showing no obvious signs of fatigue. Together with other Politburo members, he took part in a televised Kremlin ceremony commemorating the 112th anniversary of Lenin's birth.

The Soviet leader dropped out of public view on March 26, after a tiring trip to Central Asia, and Soviet sources suggested he was taken to hospital in Moscow suffering from exhaustion.

Immediately after his return from Tashkent, as speculation on the state of his health mounted, no official word was given, although a Foreign Ministry official said that Mr. Brezhnev was taking a routine winter holiday.

During his absence, a stream of official telegrams and decrees continued to be issued in his name, and last week the Soviet leader replied to President Reagan's suggestion of a summit meeting in New York in June with a proposal for a summit in October.

His proposal, suggesting the Soviet leader has no intention of retiring in the summer as has been rumoured, was read out on television in advance of publication in *Pravda* to quash rumours circulating here last weekend that he was seriously ill or even dead.

Mr. Brezhnev did not speak during the Kremlin meeting, and Soviet television, adept at turning its cameras away so as not to show any slowness of difficulty in his movements, did not show the Soviet leader rising or sitting down after the national anthem. But he appeared relaxed and attentive.

Mr. Konstantin Chernenko, a Brezhnev aide who has risen swiftly in recent months, sat beside Mr. Brezhnev, indicating he is now considered second in the Politburo hierarchy.

Mr. Andrei Kirilenko, aged 75, the longest-serving member of the Politburo apart from Mr. Brezhnev, who has not taken part in party functions for two months, was again absent today. Mr. Yuri Andropov, the head of the KGB security police, delivered the keynote speech at the rally.

In recent months Soviet officials have indicated growing irritation with the state of rumours that now sweep Moscow, with monotonous regularity as to the state of Mr. Brezhnev's health. It is a matter on which they refuse to comment, and a Western diplomat, who asked about Mr. Brezhnev's health at a meeting in the Soviet Foreign Ministry recently, was met with an icy silence.

Most rumours start in the West and those of Mr. Brezhnev's demise appear to begin in Western stock exchanges.

Moro trial threat to 'tell truth'

From Peter Nichols, Rome, April 22

Terrorist suspects on trial in Rome on charges of the kidnapping and murder of Signor Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader, four years ago, today threatened the court that they might actually tell the truth.

The unchallenged leader of the 63 defendants, Mario Moretti, told reporters from his cage in the improvised courtroom: "Write that we have a lot to say about Moro and we shall say it at the right moment".

This was the third day of hearings in the case which is concerned also with some 12 other murders. Signor Moretti, who is accused of having interrogated Signor Moro and then to have given the order to shoot him, insisted today that the defendants wanted to determine themselves in which case they were to sit while following proceedings.

The court had laid down that the defendants should be subdivided according to sex and political connotation within the Red Brigades movement, from advocates of armed action to members of the more political wing of the movement, and those who had agreed to give evidence to the investigators.

The defendants accused the court of wanting to keep them out of the proceedings. Signor Moretti said that the court, on the orders of the Government, "is doing all it can not to have us here. He went on: 'But we want to be present because we have a lot to say. This is the reason why the judges want to have the trial without us'."

Having made their protest, the defendants abandoned proceedings, but not without a threat to the press: "Be careful what you write because we are tired of jokes."

Poles show hope in face of woe

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 22

Senior Polish officials today delivered a comprehensive account of the country's economic woes in speeches that were distinguished for their faith, hope and charity, the greatest of these being hope. Mr. Janusz Obodowski, Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the economy, said that Poland wanted to pay back its debts to the West but needed short-term credits to do so.

Mr. Obodowski was speaking at the start of a two-day meeting of the plenary session of the Communist Party's central committee. He said that industrial production lagged far behind that of last year but a slight improvement was being registered from month-to-month.

The number of employed had dropped by 5 per cent in the first quarter of the year but productivity had increased by 6 per cent. Hope tinged with resentment was the keynote. Economic reform — giving enterprises more initiative — would consolidate the gradual improvements, but the recovery would take much longer than expected because of financial and trade sanctions against Poland by the West. Mr. Marian Wozniak, an alternative Politburo member, estimated that it could be as much as two years more. If the West wanted the Poland to sort out its debts it had to help.

Meanwhile it is understood that the Senate of Warsaw University has now approved four deputy rectors: Professor Franciszek Grucza, Professor Bartoszewicz, Professor Kaluzynski, all linguists, and Professor Szaflik, Dean of History, will be officially nominated on April 27. Students are planning a protest against the appointments of the regime-oriented professors.



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Church and state: Mgr Bonamin, Armed Forces chaplain, leaving Buenos Aires with President Galtieri

Galtieri waves the flag in Stanley

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 22

President Leopoldo Galtieri of Argentina flew to the Falkland Islands today to review preparations for a British blockade or counter-attack. Already a huge stockpile of ammunition and food appears to have been built up.

Standing smiling before the television cameras, he said: "I am convinced that the blue and white flag of Argentina will never come down from the Malvinas. We really want a peaceful settlement."

"We have warm hearts but what is needed now is cool heads. The British may defeat us; but they cannot break our spirits. Our material things may be destroyed but our spirits cannot be broken."

Above him hung the Argentine flag in the capital, Port Stanley, which has been renamed yet again Puerto Argentino.

He was previously called Puerto Rivera after local historical hero and Puerto Stanley. But official decree No 757 seems to have settled the matter. The Government said the English name was "foreign to the tradition and history of our nation."

General Galtieri did a swift tour and judging from the television pictures he did not have much to say to any of the town's 1,100 residents. He then began the two-hour flight back to Argentina to inspect military preparations at the southern ports of Rio Gallegos and Comodoro Rivadavia.

The official news agency Telam said General Galtieri visited the Falklands in his dual capacity as head of state and Commander-in-Chief of the Army. Despite being confronted by crowds of reporters when he left the airport at Buenos Aires he maintained the almost total public silence he has adopted in the past week.

Earlier this week the islands were visited by the other two members of the ruling junta, Brigadier-General Basilio Lami Dozo and Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya, Chief of the Air Force and the Navy.

Government sources confirmed today that Señor Costa Mendez, the Foreign Minister, will fly to Washington on Saturday and will be present at the opening of a debate by the Organization of American States on the Falklands crisis on Monday.

There was no indication whom Señor Costa Mendez, regarded as one of the least influential members of the Cabinet, intended to meet during his stay.

Argentine newspapers today carried a picture of the aircraft carrier 25 de Mayo which is said to be "cruising the South Atlantic towards the Malvinas grounds"; but there was no reliable indication tonight that the Navy was preparing to enter the 200 mile British military exclusion zone around the Falklands.

One cargo vessel ferrying supplies to the 9,000 occupation forces had broken the blockade and arrived at Port Stanley. There were suggestions tonight that Comodoro Rivadavia which served as the bridgehead for the Falklands invasion would soon be formally declared a "theatre of war".

That would mean that Rear-Admiral Juan José Lombardo, Commander of the Southern Atlantic Operations, would become military commander of the city.

Kewitts says that nine Hurcules 3130 are making between five and six trips daily between the city and the islands.

Invincible clears decks for battle

From John Withrow on board HMS Invincible, Southern Atlantic, April 22

The crew of the 19,500-ton carrier Invincible is heightening its readiness for war. From tomorrow the entire crew goes on a rota of defence watches, and peace-time routines are more or less abandoned. This State Two, as it is called, means half the ship's crew will be at stations and the rest off-duty.

Preparations for conflict will be further refined with the harsh klaxon-calling the crew to action stations. Crew are to wear overalls or combat clothing even when asleep, although they can take off their shoes.

They also have to carry their lifejackets, respirators, protective suits and anti-flash clothing to prevent burns. Nylon clothing, which can melt against the skin in a flash fire, is forbidden.

Those working on the flight deck or in exposed places will also wear helmets.

While the invincible responds to the scream of Harrier jets and Sea King helicopters, the carrier is being stripped to its bare essentials to keep damage to a minimum in the event of conflict.

Cushions, pictures, mirrors and posters have been removed from cabins and wardrooms and every loose item has been stowed away.

"Remember that which action can turn unsecured articles into lethal missiles," a notice warns. These instructions also abound with such understatements as "rapid flooding can be an extremely serious situation."

The lights are no longer dimmed in the officers' wardroom in the evening and many appear still dressed in flying overalls and navy blue battle dress. Glass cabinets have been covered in brown paper.

Overboard all bottles, presenting an image more akin to the Falls Road of Belfast.

A programme was broadcast on the ships closed-circuit television this evening in which the crew were shown life-raft drill, survival in the freezing waters of the South Atlantic, and the rights of prisoners of war under the Geneva Convention. Extracts from the article of war were read to remind crew of their duties and the penalties for not fulfilling them during action.

Despite the underlying seriousness of the orders, there is still a note of levity. Details of prayers are described as kneeling orders under State Two. One of the instructions states: "Time in the showers should be limited to two minutes and the time undressed should be kept to the barest minimum."

It adds, however, that all undressing and dressing will take place on in bathrooms at a date yet to be decided.

All these preparations for war, with their emphasis on being ready for the worst eventualities, have led to a change in mood. Hopes of a negotiated settlement have faded and with them the optimism that the crisis can be settled peacefully.

Bond issue indicates increasing pressure

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Argentina is to pay some of its foreign debts with a special issue of government bonds. A presidential decree, issued on Wednesday in Buenos Aires, said that a \$1,000m (£561m) bond issue would be used to cover debts arising from profit remittances, royalties and technical assistance.

The move is a further sign of the growing economic pressure on Argentina and the shortage of foreign currency in the country. Restrictions on the foreign currency were introduced recently because of the Falklands crisis. Purchases can be made only for imports or for repaying interest on external loans.

Dr Roberto Alemann, the Economy Minister, was quoted by the official Telam news agency as saying the bond issue was a temporary arrangement which had been used by Argentina before. The Argentine Government issued dollar denominated bonds for similar purposes in 1975 and 1976 when there were foreign exchange shortages.

Although Argentina has made strong efforts to continue to meet its financial obligations and has been making payments on loans to Western banks except for British ones, there are signs in London of payments falling behind.

Some payments are coming through as much as seven days late, according to one London banking source. There are also moves afoot to force British banks, such as Lloyds Bank, to recover a pro-rata share of the interest payments on syndicated loans as they are entitled to under the loan agreement.

The London insurance market, has issued further instructions to its members not to extend, renew or accept any insurance business with Argentine interests, Mr Peter Green, chairman of Lloyd's speaking in Sydney, also advised members to cancel in possible all policies held by interests in Argentina.

CIA deputy director resigns

Washington. Admiral Robert Inman is to resign as deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the White House announced. He is expected to leave in the middle of the year and to enter private business (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Admiral Inman, one of America's foremost intelligence experts, is the first senior national security official to resign voluntarily from the Reagan Administration for reasons which are partly related to policy disagreements. He was frequently at loggerheads with Mr William Casey, the CIA director, and with staff members of the National Security Council.

China restores presidency

Peking. — China announced it planned to reintroduce the post of state President, more than a decade after Liu Shaoqi, the last incumbent, died in prison during the Maoist Cultural Revolution. It was one of the main changes in a revised draft constitution submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, China's Parliament.

The other important innovation in the text was the establishment of a Central Military Council to lead the country's armed forces.

Mauroy in talks with Trudeau

Ottawa. — Mr Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, arrived here for two days of talks with Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister which are expected to centre on Franco-Canadian trade relationships and industrial cooperation.

The two countries' maritime boundary dispute, involving the French islands of St Pierre and Miquelon, on Canada's east coast, was also scheduled to be discussed although no breakthrough appeared in sight. Mr Mauroy is on a five-day Canadian visit and goes on to Toronto.

Arab university reopened

Tel Aviv. — Bir Zeit University near Jerusalem, the largest Arab institution of higher learning in Israeli-occupied territory, resumed classes this week after a two-week suspension by the Israeli military government (Moshe Brilant writes).

The closure of the school, regarded by Israelis as a hub of radical Palestinian nationalism, was the second in the current academic year. Classes were held for only six weeks between the start of the latest suspension and the end of the previous one.

Gambian leader dies in crash

Banjul. — Mr A. B. Njie, the former Gambian Vice-President, was killed and President Sir Dawda Jawara was slightly injured when a helicopter carrying them on an official visit crashed, about 200 miles east of here, according to a well-informed source.

The source said that the President suffered bruises but had been allowed home from hospital (Godfrey Morrison writes).

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British Euro MPs who pay £197 to fly from London to Strasbourg and back have been irritated to learn that their Irish colleagues pay only £143 return from Dublin on the same aircraft, the so-called "champagne special" provided by the Mayor of Strasbourg.

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Lawyer cleared

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Water supply Rationing to cope with extra use

By Our Foreign Staff

Water is being rationed in the Falklands, according to the latest group of people allowed to leave the islands.

In the past, Port Stanley, where more than half the population lives in normal times, had a more than adequate supply. Water surplus to requirements was sold to vessels such as those of the big Polish fishing fleet operating in the South Atlantic.

That there was plenty of water for the local people in the capital was shown by the amount lost through holes in the pipes. The Falkland Islands Government, had, however, been considering spending more money on the system.

That was before thousands of Argentine troops arrived on Port Stanley. Even with the departure of many people from the Camp, as the outlying areas are known, supplies in Port Stanley are clearly insufficient to meet the needs of the invading forces.

Water for Port Stanley is treated at a filtration plant at Moody Brook. Natural springs are the source of water piped into the farms.

The most recent reports of the Falkland Islands Government on water supplies have not been released. The Economic Survey of the Falklands under the chairmanship of Lord Shackleton, which published a report in 1976, said that there was ample water for Port Stanley's existing population needs and industrial demands.

The filtration plant could conceivably deal with a doubling of demand, the Shackleton report said. One implication is that Port Stanley's service could cope with as many as 2,000 people. It is believed in some quarters, however, that comments on water supplies in the Shackleton and other assessments of the 1970s are out of date. Water in the Falklands is now being treated as a subject militarily sensitive that Whitehall will not comment on the situation. The Argentine troops have been asking the islanders for water and food.

Contrary to their image, the Falklands are not particularly wet. Average rainfall in Port Stanley is about 26in but is down to 15in in West Falkland. The recent summer has been dry by local standards.

The last official British Government report on the Falklands, published in 1976, said: "For Stanley, water is supplied from the 6,000 gallons per hour capacity filtration plant at Moody Brook to a reservoir and a high level tank with a combined capacity of 500,000 gallons."

Strasbourg vote for withdrawal

From George Clark, Strasbourg, April 22

With representatives of the Falkland Islands watching from the diplomats' gallery, the European Parliament today approved by 203 votes to 28 a resolution condemning the Argentine invasion of the islands and backing the United Nations demand for the withdrawal of all Argentine forces.

It praised the quick action taken by the ten EEC member states to impose an embargo on imports from Argentina and recommended the Council of Ministers to review the possibility of taking further measures.

The dispute between the British Conservative and Labour MPs over a clause referring to the prerequisites for a peaceful settlement was partly resolved after the Parliament had rejected a form of words

Reporters may be freed soon

Ushuaia, April 22. — Three British journalists held in Ushuaia on charges of spying against Argentina are expected to be given "benefit of the doubt" and released soon, police sources said here today.

The three, Mr Simon Winchester, of *The Sunday Times*, and Mr Ian Mather, of the *Telegraph*, both of *The Observer*, spoke to members of the Argentine press inside their Ushuaia jail today after appearing before a civil judge.

Judge Carlos Sagatume apparently concluded that "ambiguity and doubt" prevailed in the journalists' case as "there was little difference between information and intelligence."

Police sources said that the judge's statement indicated the three men were likely "to be freed very soon, perhaps on Friday."

Mr Winchester told Argentine colleagues that the three Britons were "absolutely innocent." He added that they had been "very treated."

While Mr Prime refused to make any comment, Mr Mather said that the judge had been "very kind" although there had been "stressful periods of isolation, especially during legal procedures." The cells were small, but otherwise the treatment and food were good.

Mr Winchester said the three had been held in a variety of places before being brought to Ushuaia, but "everyone has been correct and kind to us." He added: "This is something of a sideshow. We would like to get back to covering the main story."

Argentine reporters said the three were "in good condition physically and in good spirits." AFP and AP.

Pro-British mood grows on Capitol Hill

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 22

Pressure is rapidly building up on Capitol Hill for the United States openly to side with Britain in its dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the influential Democrat from New York and former United States representative at the United Nations, yesterday introduced a Senate resolution calling on President Reagan to join European countries in imposing economic sanctions on Argentina.

Using exceptionally tough language Senator Moynihan declared that the United States could not remain neutral "between an ally without equivalent in the world and a hostile, neo-fascist and antisemitic military regime."

He added that American policy of mediation had failed and was bound to fail because the United States had tried to interpose itself between an aggressor and a victim of aggression.

Later in the afternoon Senator Alan Cranston from California, assistant Senate minority leader, gave warning that the Falklands crisis highlighted the danger of Argentina acquiring nuclear weapons.

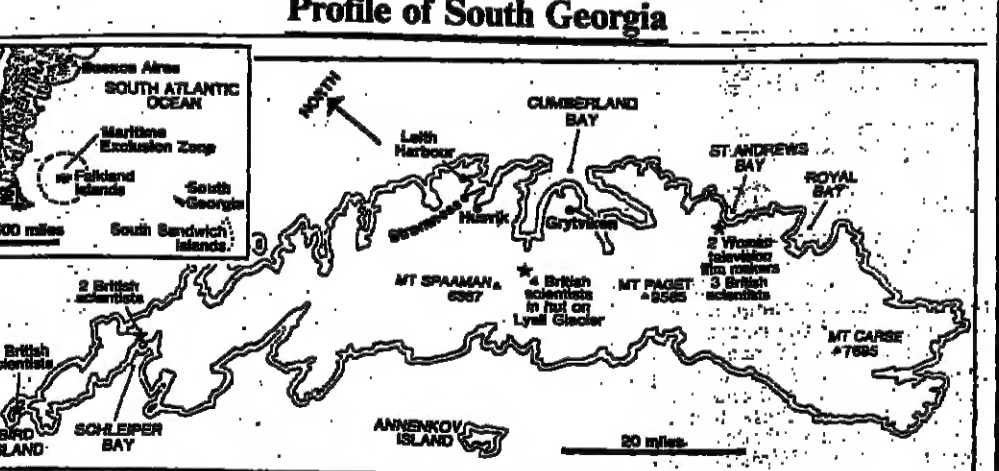
"An isolated country ruled by generals and admirals, content for international norms by occupying territory in violation of the United Nations charter, might well choose to exploit its carefully maintained nuclear option if pushed to the wall," he told the Senate.

Their action comes after another resolution introduced earlier this week by Senator Larry Pressler, a Republican from South Dakota, calling on the United States to condemn the invasion of the Falklands, urge

peaceful agreement".

When the amended solution was put to the vote, the Democrats appeared to split three ways. Some were among the ten abstainers, some voted with the Conservatives, and the rest, including Mr Alfred Lomas, MEP for London North East and Mr Roland Boyes, MEP for Durham, voted against. Mr Lomas had already told the Parliament that he wanted the British fleet to be brought back now.

Mr William Luxton, a sheep farmer and member of the Falklands Executive Council, whose family has lived on the island since 1863, said Mr Richard Baker, Deputy Governor of the islands since 1979, answered questions from MEPs and journalists at a briefing session.



Holiday resort for the birds

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The island of South Georgia has been well-used for more than a century and a half; first by whalers and seal fur traders, and more recently by scientists. It has developed one of the main Antarctic research centres there, and by crews of Soviet and other fishing vessels who take on fresh water supplies at Grytviken.

Just over two years ago a task force of 15 Royal Engineers completed reconstruction of the jetty at Grytviken for the benefit largely of the British Antarctic Survey vessels.

Scientists who have worked a summer season at one of the field stations on the island, which is about 120 miles long and 25 miles wide, describe it in terms more suited to a holiday resort. For it has many pristine sandy beaches and the glaciated mountain range in the centre of the island has peaks up to 10,000 ft rising from the surrounding plateau.

But conditions in winter are severe, and as the colder weather develops the team of 13 scientists and two women television film-makers still on the island are probably experiencing far from comfortable surroundings.

The annual records suggest that temperatures will already be dropping to below -35°C for much of the 24 hours. Snow will almost certainly be falling. Winds

Profile of South Georgia

Henrickson, who now lives in Oman, said yesterday that she had never expected them to leave the islands. "But we just do not know what they have had to deal with. All we have had from them since the invasion are two short letters."

Mr Henrickson and her husband Robin, who is also from the Falklands, met Mr and Mrs Ford at the airport. Mr Henrickson confirmed that many islanders were worried about the island's water supply, which is now being rationed. "It has never been over-adequate. This extra influx of people must be putting too much of a strain on it."

Mr Rex Hunt, the exiled Falklands governor, met the party at Grytviken and was greeted warmly by the islanders.

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EEC farm prices accord paves way for budget

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg, April 22

A record increase in earnings for Europe's eight million farmers has all but been agreed by EEC agriculture ministers meeting here. What still stands in the way of a final settlement is the question of how much Britain should pay into the Community budget, and this is next due to be discussed by foreign ministers meeting here next Tuesday.

Given the facts that Britain will not agree a package until the budget issue is settled, the agriculture ministers today suspended their meeting provisionally until next Wednesday to await the outcome of these parallel negotiations.

It is already clear, however, that Britain has abandoned its hard-line position on a number of agricultural issues and this may well make it easier for it to achieve a budget deal that would be satisfactory.

During the past three days of the meeting the question of prices has not even been discussed in the open sessions. Nevertheless, Mr Paul de Keersmaecker, the Belgian President of the Council, made soundings among all the delegations. He was able to report afterwards that "with some minor changes" Commission proposals for increases averaging 10.5 per cent were universally acceptable.

This would be the highest single price rise ever agreed for the EEC's farmers. It is



Mr Buchanan-Smith: Soft line from Britain.

significantly above the 5 to 6 per cent increase the British Government had privately hoped could be agreed and it calls into question the idea Britain so strongly backed of creating a prudent price policy for agriculture.

Commission estimates given to delegations at the meeting show that their proposals would add about £37m to agricultural spending. Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, handling the negotiations, backed Herr Josef Ertl, the West German Minister, in questioning the commission intensely on this point.

"We think their assumptions in many cases are far too optimistic," Mr Buchanan-Smith said afterwards. British experts are to

spend the time until the next meeting investigating just how realistic the commission estimates are. Even so, Britain has accepted assurances from the Commission that spending can still be contained within the community's own resources, up to the per cent value-added tax ceiling.

Nor did he disagree with the Belgian Minister's view that a solution was in sight to the vexed problem of helping small dairy farmers.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said everybody now accepted that something had to be done for these small farmers and what was needed was agreement on how best that help should be given. This is in marked contrast to the outright refusal by Britain earlier this year to accept any scheme which would encourage small farmers to add to the milk surplus.

The other outstanding problems identified by Mr de Keersmaecker were adjustment of the green currency rates, marketing of Mediterranean produce including wine, and possible special measures to help Greece contend with its high inflation rate.

It is to be left to Mr de Keersmaecker, who as Belgium's joint agriculture and European Affairs minister, will be present at the budget discussions next week, to take a final decision on when to resume the meeting.



India's roadside justice

Anarchy on the roads is an enduring nightmare in India. But something is being done at last. Mobile courts, as seen above, are being set up as part of a novel concept: strict enforcement of the traffic laws (Trevor Fishlock writes from Delhi).

India's roads are among the most dangerous and frightening in the world. Drivers are reckless and fatalist, and pay scant attention to other road users, laws and road conditions.

The behaviour of bus drivers, for example, is an acknowledged national scandal. Bus crashes with large death tolls are commonplace. Many drivers are untrained, unlicensed and inexperienced. Lorry drivers, too, strike fear into other road users. Many of them, as

they hurtle towards another vehicle, make it a point of pride to swerve only at the last instant. Wrecked lorries litter the country's highways.

People often drive the wrong way around a roundabout or against the traffic flow. For many, it seems, traffic lights are purely decorative. Pedestrians and cyclists are given little consideration.

In Delhi the new chief of the police traffic department, Superintendent Kiran Bedi, is determined to put some order into the chaos. She calls Delhi's traffic "totally undisciplined" and is seeing that the law is more rigorously enforced. Hence the courts set up on the capital's roadsides. Magistrates can impose fines of up to 1,000 rupees (£58).

Guns before butter Pacifism is a dirty word in Russia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, April 22

Almost every day Soviet newspapers report with approval the growing strength of western peace movements. Television shows demonstrations against nuclear weapons and carries interviews with disarmament campaigners. "There is in western Europe virtually no place free from anti-militarist sentiments", *Izvestia* said recently.

But any such sentiment is quickly and firmly suppressed at home. Indeed the Russians make it clear that they will not tolerate any questioning of their own nuclear arsenal, and have recently stepped up the campaign to inculcate a sense of "patriotic duty" in young people. As in East Germany, officials have expressed fears that "anti-militarist propaganda is beginning to backfire. There is no place for pacifism in the Soviet Union. The product is strictly for export to the West."

The authorities do all they can to prevent Russians equating military preparedness at home and abroad. The language used is different: whereas western policies are "militarist", "aggressive" and "expansionist", Soviet defence is invariably linked with patriotism, the strengthening of peace and repelling imperialist aggression.

Detailed descriptions are given of the West's nuclear might, its power to obliterate mankind and its debates on strategy and survival. No word is ever allowed out about Soviet strategy, military preparedness or nuclear arsenal.

The press acknowledges only "sufficient" weapons to give any adversary a "resolute rebuttal". The Soviet leadership, after long hesitation, recently authorized release of the number of nuclear missiles it admitted to deploying, but such is military secrecy that these were referred to only by their Nato-given names—SS4, SS5 and SS20.

Any form of western pacifist movements is carefully edited to show protests only against western weapons. Nuclear disarmers who arrive in Moscow are unable to speak in public of Soviet weapons, or display banners calling on the Kremlin to dismantle its missiles.

Pacifism has long been condemned by party propagandists. The 1978 edition of the *Soviet Military Encyclopedia* describes it as "an

unscientific now as it was at the time of its inception in the 1830s".

There is of course a large peace movement in the Soviet Union, but it is a fully-organized government body which lobbies for Soviet disarmament initiatives and encourages support at home for official foreign policy.

There is no spontaneous movement for unilateral disarmament, nor any other independent manifestation of anti-militarism, but there does appear to be a growing feeling of the military demands placed on each citizen. National service is very unpopular, and cases have been reported of mothers lobbying recruiting boards to prevent their sons being sent to Afghanistan.

The trend has already worried the authorities. Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, chief of the Soviet Defence Staff and Deputy Defence Minister, in a recent booklet aimed at mass readership, called for a decisive struggle by propaganda workers to fight "complacency and elements of pacifism" among Soviet youth.

In spite of calls for greater military vigilance, there is little evidence of widespread pacifist feeling. A British peace delegation that came here in January was saddened to find that while Russians quickly condemned the military build-up in the West, they could not believe their own armaments could threaten any other country.

But as the Russians feel more and more threatened by the tough line coming from Washington and endorsement by enemies, they are determined to keep up their defences at whatever cost.

Military spending is estimated to be growing by about 4 per cent a year, but as the faltering Soviet economy slows down, this will bite ever deeper into the budget for consumer goods. The leadership will always put guns before butter, but it is anxious to ensure that rising discontent, especially among the young, at the low level of consumer goods is not translated into calls for cuts in the defence budget.

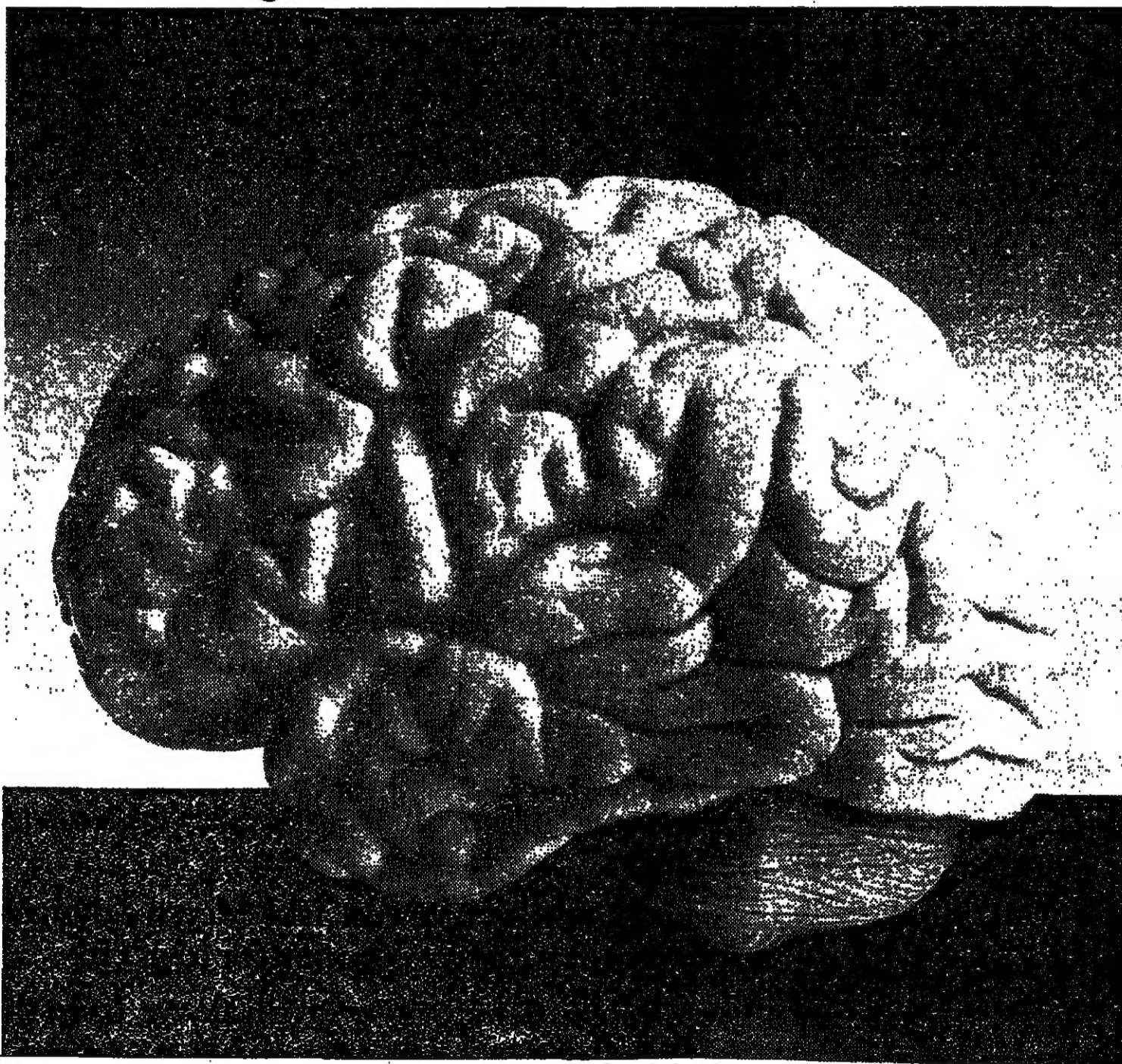
Pravda told ideological workers last year to root out any traces of pacifism occasionally found in instructional and propaganda materials. Those, it appears, are for use overseas.

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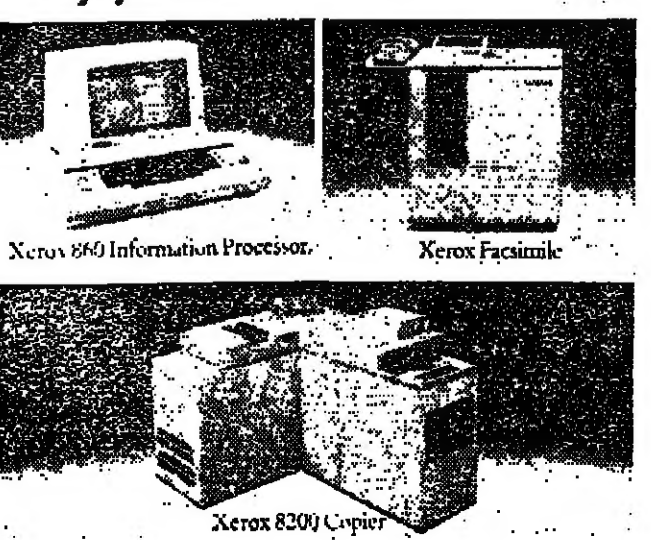
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UN tries to help Third World cities

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, April 22

The urban population in developing countries is expected to more than double over the next 20 years, putting city services under increasing stress and making the poor suffer most of all. There are now 800 million "poor" people in the world with incomes of less than £50 a year. Many of the poorest of them are living in cities and towns, often in shanty areas with minimal facilities.

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements—Habitat—founded in 1976 after the first United Nations conference in Human settlements in Vancouver is deeply concerned with the problems involved in raising housing standards in the fast-growing cities and towns of the developing world.

Habitat, which has its headquarters in Nairobi, is holding its annual conference here next week, starting on Monday, attended by representatives of most of the world's governments.

Habitat, like its sister organization, the United Nations Programme for Development, is itself facing problems. Many of its projects, says its executive director, are in extra-budgetary contributions from governments, and he is appealing for more finance. He is quoted by a suggestion of the general assembly that, as part of a general review of United Nations expenditure, Habitat should increase its efforts in seeking finance for housing services, but should cut down its work in developing more economic and efficient housing techniques and the planning of settlements.

For this year's conference, Habitat has prepared studies on urban and rural transport because, it points out, too costly transport systems limit the working ability of millions of poor people.

"Current rural transport policy, oriented mainly towards the provision of trunk roads and feeder roads, often built to a high standard of design is inappropriate, and should be reformulated", he says. "The rural poor should be provided with essential access facilities and the development of appropriate (low-cost) vehicles for use both on and off the farm should be promoted".

There should be less emphasis on developing high-cost central city areas, and more on building up the "informal" economy. The United Nations plans to designate 1987, as the international year of shelter for the homeless.

Greeks free 500 to ease jail crisis

From Mario Modiano
Athens, April 22

To ease prison congestion and relieve the serious backlog of court cases in Greece, the Socialist Government has passed a law suspending all jail sentences up to one year and dropping charges on all minor offences punishable by up to one year's imprisonment.

This has caused the Greek prison population of 8,000 to drop by 500 and 300,000 cases have been shelved.

The implementation of the new legislation, however, stumbled on a ruling of the Athens Appeal Court which declared that as the Constitution forbade amnesties for common offences, the law was unconstitutional.

The Appeal Court set a precedent and many courts followed suit by rejecting the invocation of the new law whenever a lawyer insisted that his client qualified for this reprieve. Other tribunals, however, disagreed, and the state prisons opened their gates to let out inmates who qualified.

The affair was fast developing into a muddle that was giving the Greek judges far more headaches than the law had started to cure. The confusion was ended by the Supreme Court recently when a plenary of the 25 judges decided that the law was constitutional and therefore valid. Their ruling is binding on the lower courts.

The case that prompted the ruling involved Mr Constantine Despotopoulos, a university professor who decided to make a test case of his refusal to swear an oath, because, as a standing magistrate, he was a Greek church member.

Two Greek courts so far have ruled against the professor and sentenced him to one month in jail. It was hoped that the Supreme Court would have given a final ruling. But the judges did not delve into the substance of the controversy, they simply dismissed the case involving the new law. The Supreme Court decided that the new law was fully constitutional as it did not involve an amnesty but a suspension of sentences which could be revived if within one year the defendant were irreversibly sentenced to a prison term of two months or more or a fine of at least £400.

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Russia

Moscow, April 22
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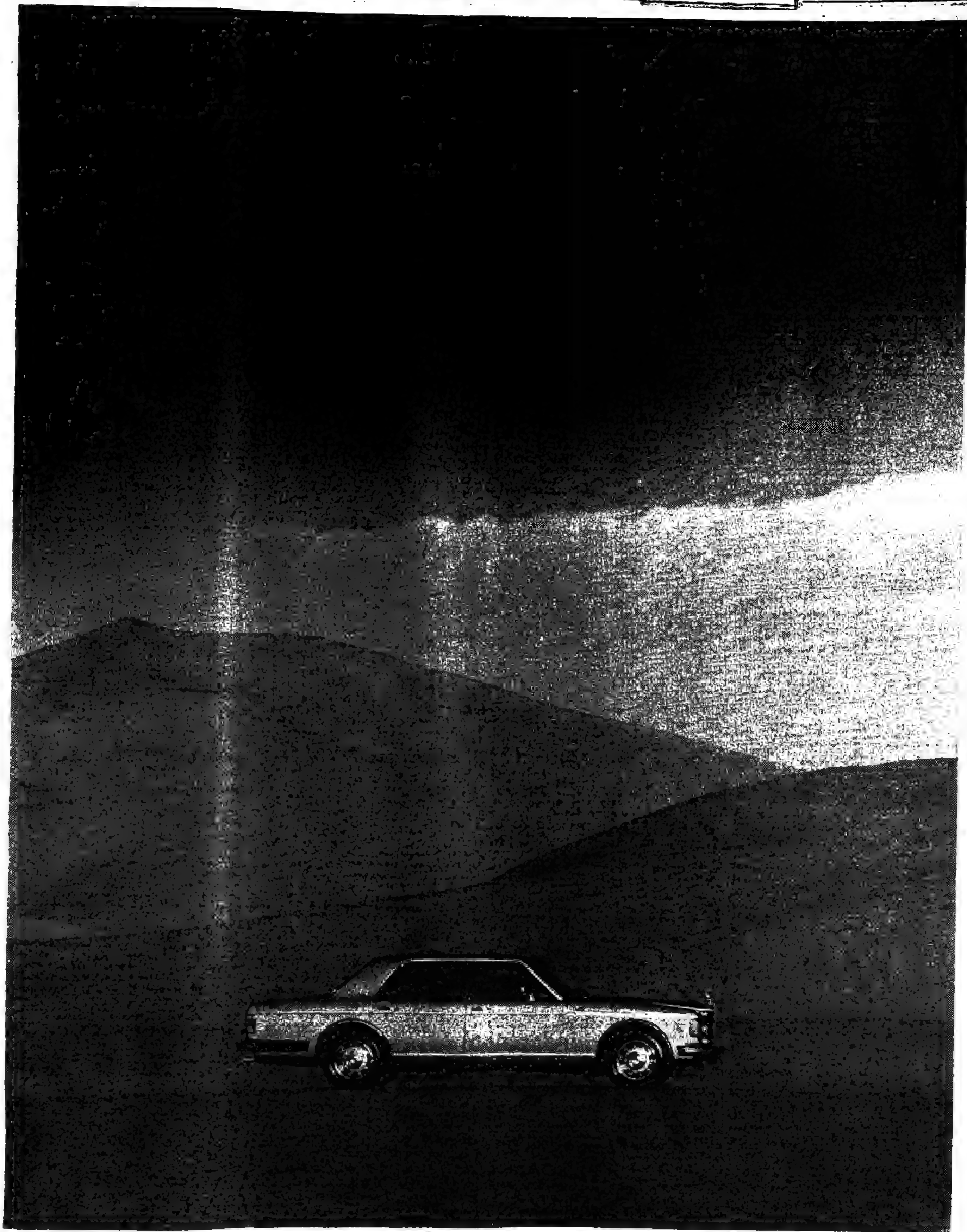
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Greeks free 5th to ease euro crisis

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SOME THINGS THAT HAVEN'T CHANGED

Last Monday we promised to show readers of *The Times* the changes that have made the 1982 Silver Spirit the most advanced car ever to carry the Rolls-Royce name.

One other virtue of the car is worth mentioning - and that a less fashionable one. It is conservatism,

wit a small c.

It still takes one man one day to make the Rolls-Royce radiator. It still takes him five hours to polish it. And the man who wrought this unique piece of sculpture still demonstrates his pride of craftsmanship by engraving his initials on the back of

the gleaming finished product.

Rolls-Royce still employ specialists - leather workers, tinsmiths, cabinet makers, seamstresses, the best of their kind in the world - to do by hand and eye what machines cannot do.

It still takes over three months to make a Silver Spirit.

And it is still true that every car that leaves the factory is, in a thousand subtle ways, different from every other.

These things are so, not just because Sir Henry Royce decreed them, but because this kind of single-minded perfectionism is the only way

to make the best of anything in the world.



Number 5 in a series of advertisements for the Rolls-Royce Silver Spirit. Rolls-Royce Motors Ltd., Crewe, Cheshire. A Vickers company.

No access to court through EEC law

The case law revealed a division of judicial opinion as to the legal criterion for determining whether a person had in his possession a controlled drug. The question arose on a case stated in *Bocking v Roberts* (1974) 1 QB 307, 309F where Lord Widgery, giving the majority judgement held that the question the law

The Crown submitted that the second ruling was wrong in law, and the error was that the court imported the adjectival expression "in a manner prohibited by law" into section 5(1). The language of the subsection, it was submitted, was such as to constitute a charge of which no further or higher qualification other than was made in section 5(1) and (2). There was no reference in either subsection to "usability".

That was a powerful submission, and the defence sought to counter it in two ways: (1) it would be contrary to the Act's intention to extend the prohibition on possession to a quantity of drugs which is not the subject of misuse, since the Act struck at misuse of drugs and

First, was the quantity sufficient to enable a court to find as a matter of fact that it amounted to something? If it was visible, tangible, and measurable, it was certainly something. The question was one of fact for the common sense of the tribunal. That was the decision in *Boeking* in which the approach was correct in law.

Second, quantity might be relevant to the issue of knowledge. Lord Diplock in the *Privy Council in DPP v Brooks* ([1974]

The trial judge certainly made his view of the law very plain in his exchanges with counsel for the defence; but there was no harm in that, even if he later held to be wrong.

The appeal was allowed and the conviction restored.

Solicitors: Sharpe, Pritchard & Co for Mr D. C. Beal, Huntingdon; Bindman & Partners, for Peter Soar, Cambridge.

The plaintiffs wanted to be granted pilotage certificates to save the cost of employing British pilots at Harwich. The pilotage authority was unwilling to examine them for pilotage certificates to protect the livelihoods of their own pilots and protect their revenues. The plaintiffs brought an action seeking orders requiring the pilotage authority to examine

Rome were directly applicable as to found claims by individuals against individuals in memoranda.

Mr. Seymour further asserted that "wherever an individual sought to invoke some claim under the Treaty of Rome, the Commission would be required to apply the provisions of the Communities Act 1972 he would find *ipso facto* to seek redress by means of an action in the courts even where under national law the subject matter of his claim was the death of another person or otherwise than by action in the courts."

That submission was wholly unavailing. There could be no doubt that the obligation arising from the Treaty, as well as from regulations and decisions of the European Court of Justice formed part of the corpus juris

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Susan Torrey, *Elizabeth Jane Torr
Sara Pauline Towey, *J Townsend,
*Elizabeth Johanna Treacy.
Tredrea, *Sophie Maria Trombley, *H
Trust, Kai Wing Tsang, S J Tucker, S
Tucker, *Melieri Tudur, *A M Turner

Principles for granting leave to appeal on law in arbitrations

The vessel completed discharge at Algieras on December 16, 1980, so the 90-day period expired on March 16, 1981.

Section 2, of the 1979 Act as amended by the Supreme Court Act 1981, provided: "(1)... on application to the High Court made by any of the parties to a

At p303F Lord Diplock said: Where... a question of law involved is a 'one-off' clause - leave should not normally be given unless it is apparent to the

Appeal under section 2 the same conditions applied as in the case of a section 1 appeal. But in the light of the difference in the importance accorded to the

being listed to follow the application for leave. It was to be hoped that hereafter such applications, whether under section 10 or 11, would be handled in a more expeditious manner.

His Lordship doubted whether the argument could have been advanced with the faintest air of truth.

Sir David Cairns and Lord Justice Stephenson agreed.

Power, 3. A P Reid, 6. J S Richmond,
2. R J Richards, 4. Susan Hart,
Rosborough, 7. I Rowe, 1. J 4. 6. 7. 1.
A Royin, 6. C Samson, 6. J M Seal,
1. J Sellers, 6. D G Searrow, 4. R I
Stern, 4. M J Sullivan, 7. R F Tapp,
Nadine Mary Tilbury, 7. R Tudor, 8.

Patricia Tyler, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 84

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William Ma

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duced by a young male, who, a housemaid and a waitress, a soldier and an accountant and with two mere players to create the lot. Since coming out of copyright this year, Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde* had been the tapid scandal of Manchester and a halfway stylish entertainment for the Royal Shakespeare Company. The production by Mike Alfreds for the Shared Experience company, it becomes many more of the things that were previously claimed for the play. It is witty and insightful, sensual and tinged with sadness. Pam and these things are the same. Jonathan Hackett brings those qualities, enriched by understanding, to their diverse characterizations. The play is little more in form than a sequence of couplings. All the indignity of the one-night

returning to the man who is left at a moment who offers the big genuinely big survives and emerges is left in Vienna an orgasm apiece of little death and energized and appears, and Mr Hackett there remain or sadness — women — Hackett's me the waste of the lustless reward. observe life of the honour of passion, impulse to be from the sacred two actors the reality much more before.

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Mussorgsky's Nursery Songs do not. Even so, Miss Kenny came close to convincing us, and the accompaniments were competently played by Joyce Nixon and Dan Saunders.

The trio gave an eloquent performance of Josef Suk's *Elegie* and an occasionally untidy but generally satisfactory one of Andrzej Panufnik's *Trio*, Op. 1.

Parvus was rejoined by Yvonne Kenny for Strakosky's *Song*: Op 127, a cycle based on poems by Blok. Each song achieves its effect with a different instrumental combination: a mournful cello for "Ophelia's Song", an aggressive piano (brilliantly played by Dan Saunders) for "Armageddon", and a "yellow bird" Miss Kenny had the measure of them all.

Barry Millington

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Royal Shakespeare Company
BARBICAN

Is this the best way to bury the Green Giant?

by Simon Jenkins

Ever since the last war, London property developers have been asking architects to get rid of the old, and getting hideously silly answers. The tapering spires which gave pre-1940s London the appearance of floating above the Thames basin have been submerged. In their place has come none of the romance of Manhattan's skyscraper clusters. Instead we have a landscape of broken stumps of buildings, misshapen shoeboxes-abusing their surroundings and devoid of any capacity to elevate the spirit.

Last July Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, tried to put an end to this syndrome. He rejected a 500ft tower, nicknamed the Green Giant, mischievously proposed for the south end of Vauxhall Bridge by a parliamentary colleague, Mr Keith Wickenden of European Ferries. It was a decision of some courage and it makes past capitulations to commercial pressure on the skyline (most lamentably by Harold Macmillan over the Hilton and Shell towers) all the more gratuitous. The Green Giant, said Mr Heseltine, would be "massive and overbearing" and should not be built. He was right.

Instead he announced an architectural competition for a combined site extending on both sides of the southern approach to the bridge. 12 acres with a construction value of some £90m and one of the largest and most valuable sites still left in central London. Situated opposite the Tate Gallery, upstream of Parliament and downstream of Chelsea, it is also one of the most visually sensitive. Mr Heseltine was in effect declaring a public contest, with a prize of £50,000, to open a new era in British public architecture.

He had done an exciting thing.

He then promptly all but undid it. The developers, Mr Ronald Lyon and his backers, Shaikh Khaled bin Mahfouz and the Kuwaiti Artco Bank, were allowed a floor area/site ratio of 2.5:1 against the local Lambeth planners' brief of a 2:1 maximum. In addition, almost a quarter of the development had to be of "architecturally innovative housing and leisure amenities", effectively increasing yet further the bulk of the offices. This was a devastating requirement ensuring the worst of both worlds. It meant that whatever else the office content was bound to be "massive and overbearing".

There was to be no scope for genuine alternatives; no question of a smaller scale of development, of breaking the site up into various owners, uses or tenants; no planning radicalism; no enterprise zones on quarter-acre plots; no flexibility to consider a variety of commercial uses. This was to be old-fashioned comprehensive development, the attitude of mind which brought up the Elephant and Castle, St Paul's Precinct and the continuing catastrophe of the Barbican.

Faced with this prospect the first temptation must be to run away and scream. Mastodon of concrete, glass and steel are now almost certain to glare down at the gentle streets of South Lambeth and Pimlico. And we had all better grit our teeth and bear it. The eight shortlisted competition entries are now huddling in a temporary exhibition tent in a corner of Vauxhall Cross as if ashamed to show their faces in public. And although we are given the names of the winning teams, only with illicit ingenu-

ity can some of them be matched to the models and photomontages, all coyly anonymous. What on earth are we to make of them? I must admit that under all the circumstances, they are fascinating. The planning brief has inevitably produced vastness, but it has not destroyed originality. I assume most credit for this goes to the architect David MacCormac who is on the three-man assessment panel. And the Tate Gallery opposite could do worse than accept the eight as a monumental festschrift to post-war "developers' architecture" in celebration of a near-extinct species.

All the Post-modernist styles are gathered in attendance, though sadly none represented by their originators. There is "High Tech" (scheme A) with the visible service ducts, metal frames and drooping greenery of the Norman Foster/Richard

Rogers school. There is Beaux Arts revival (G), complete with Philip Johnson's "Chippendale" pediments. Scheme H has twin towers looking like Cape Kennedy space-shuttle silos. Scheme D is apparently an exercise in council-estate renaissance. Scheme E is a huge pile of Cote d'Azur signposts of the sort now considered de rigueur for all high-density marina developments. And for good measure the judges have included scheme C, a set of extraordinary neo-Stalinist wedding cake turrets straight from the banks of the Moscow river. There are chevron patterns, cliff walls, grids, pods and useless expanses of walkway: in short anything and everything to rid the mind of the hated point blocks and curtain walls. From the architecture of the shoebox we have leaped in one bound to that of the Mad Hatter's tea-party.

It is now likely that one of these will be built. So if we must have gigantism on the South Bank, let it at least be truly stunning. If architecture is to be forced by planners to hew to the public, let it do so with as much style and wit as it can muster. I enjoyed scheme A — the "High Tech" — with its light glass towers topped with engineering-as-decoration and surrounded with stepped blocks of reflecting glass. It has levity and dash and is unmistakably of the 1980s.

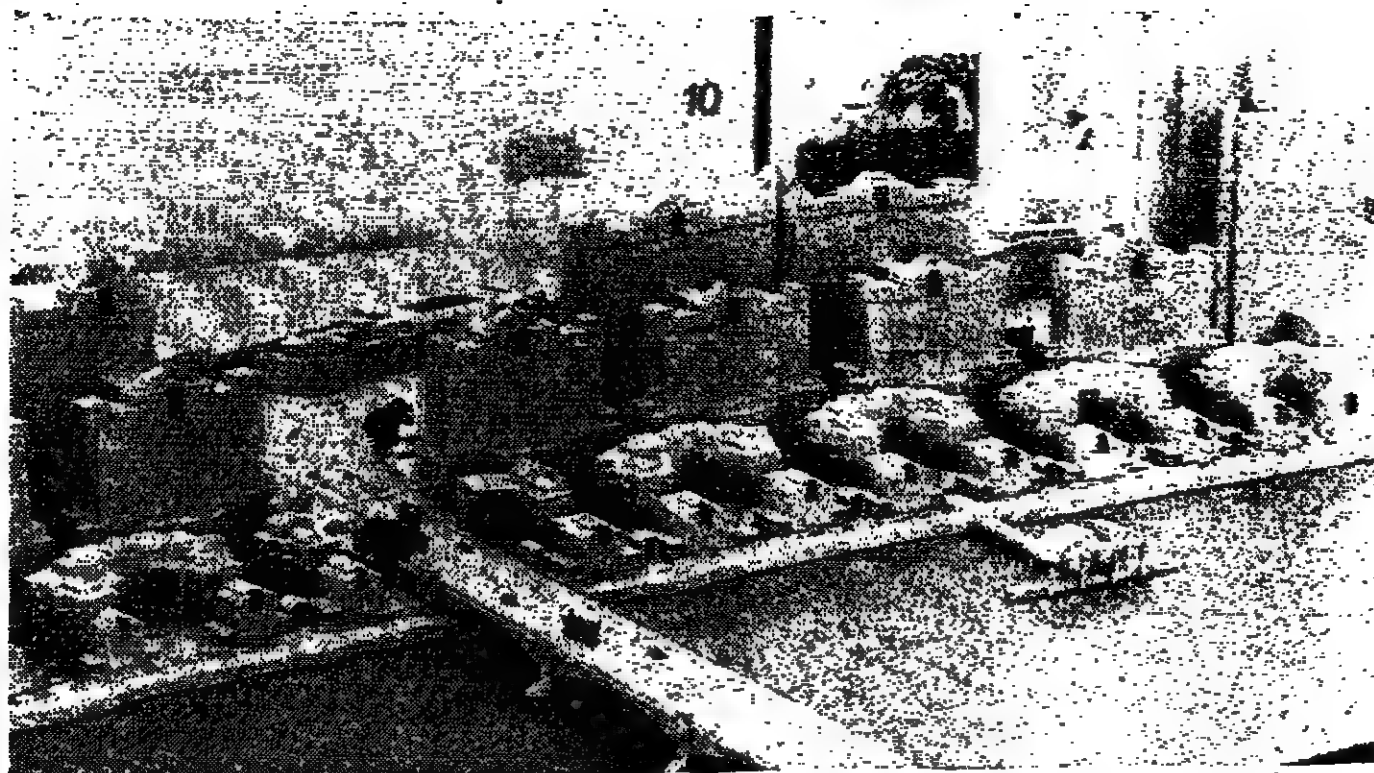
The twin amphitheatres (E), I assume by Nicholas Lacey, have similar flair. They take the river bank and swirl it round towards Chelsea with a great soaring and plunging outline: the hanging gardens of Vauxhall. Lacey also sets two monster semi-circular blocks to guard the bridge approach, as if warning that southwards "Here be dragons".

But my favourite is G, Terry Farrell's ultimate architectural joke. Here on the shores of the Thames he proposes the Baths of Palladio as a redesign of classical villas on a grid to classical temples and finally to cliffs of offices faced in mirrors to reduce their bulk. All is surmounted by broken, almost deranged, pediments.

It is an outrageous revival of the English classical tradition, as if in expiation of the horrors which modern architecture has inflicted on London. It would be a timeless monument and a joke on Mr Heseltine in the very best of taste.

The author is political editor of The Economist, was editor of The Evening Standard 1976-78 and has written many books, pamphlets and articles on architecture.

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The Green Giant site (left), across the river from the Tate, and plan G (above), the 'monumental joke' which might be chosen from the eight competition finalists.

David Watt

In the end it's down to America

The Foreign Secretary's present visit to Washington appears to have been the subject of some foreboding elements of his party. Will not the inexperienced Mr Pym, once removed from the immediate scrutiny of the Prime Minister and of right-minded Members of Parliament, be liable to have his arm twisted by the Reagan Administration? Is he robust enough to stand up for British interests against the charm of the President and the forceful pressures of Mr Haig and Mr Lawrence Eagleburger?

The short answer is that if Mr Pym shows signs of "backsliding" it is likely to be far more from personal conviction than from American pressure. The Administration will certainly continue to urge caution and compromise, but the general atmosphere in Washington — in the Congress and in the media — is as pro-British as it is pro-American, and so critical of the even-handedness of the President as between Britain and the Argentine that if anyone has the disposition in these conversations to put the Falklands on anyone else, it is the British Foreign Secretary, who has the better hold. Mr Haig is no John Foster Dulles and this is not Suez.

Nevertheless, the Conservative "hawks" are padding about in the right pool. No amount of patriotic euphoria should ever be allowed to obscure the reality that there is no way, whether military or pacific, in which the Falklands crisis can be settled to the satisfaction of Britain and the islands: without the active cooperation of the US. It is not simply a matter of immediate American "good offices" in the dispute or even of American economic leverage over the junta.

In the long term, it is likely to be American guarantees of whatever status is negotiated for the islands, and indeed a permanent part of American in the hemisphere as a whole, that will provide the essential security for an adequate settlement.

In other words, in the Latin American context, our need for the US is far greater than our nuisance value to the Americans. It therefore behooves us to put the Falklands issue firmly in the middle of the debate about the future of the Atlantic alliance: that has been going on ever since Soviet-American nuclear parity and the Afghanistan crisis precipitated it into the open.

The irony, of course, is that the Falklands question has opened the discussion of British interests in the Americas. For the past 18 months, the main focus of attention has been American complaints that the Europeans have not been pulling their weight, that we were turning soft and neutralist, and that unless we pulled ourselves together and spent more on defence and on supporting the crusade against Soviet imperialism worldwide, the US would inevitably start to downgrade its commitment to Europe.

Now the boot is on the other foot. It is the British who are complaining about lack of American support for a European attempt to resist aggression outside Europe. The first set of arguments was fuelled by the latent isolationism and nationalism of American public opinion; the second are feeding upon the latent anti-Americanism that occasionally wells up on the right as well as the left of British politics.

It might be said that this reversal is all to the good and that we have all learnt our lessons at last about the indivisibility of global problems, about the vital need for

the US needs to maintain a diplomatic posture in relation to Latin American countries that is at odds with the interests of one of its major allies, just as say West Germany needs to maintain a position in the European region, vis-à-vis its immediate neighbour, the Soviet Union, that is at odds with the perceptions of the US. There is nothing surprising about this but it needs far more management and calm recognition than we have given it in the past.

The other related question raised by the incident is even more pertinent. It is whether the US itself is really able to fulfil the policeman's role that it has set itself. The Falklands issue is a peripheral question for the US, requiring, even under the worst eventualities, little or no American military commitment and involving no immediate Soviet presence or interference.

But it has already scraped the sources of American policy and there are more potential Falklands around the world which may have to be contended with in the future, given the efficacy of low-level violence.

All this will require in the end much thought, much alliance consultation, and, in all probability, new alliance machinery. In the pressure and uncertainty of the crisis it is easy to forget these underlying problems, but they lie just beneath the surface of the situation all the same.

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Sinai: the war waiting in the wings



Israeli soldiers remove an anti-withdrawal protester in the Sinai

Jerusalem. By one of those supreme ironies of which the Middle East is so fond, the approaching climax of the first stage of the Camp David peace process — the final Israeli retreat from Sinai — has been accompanied by widespread concern about the prospect of a new Arab-Israeli conflict.

Even before Wednesday's massive Israeli air raid in Lebanon, the first since the American-negotiated truce came into effect last July, a combination of Israeli troop movements, Palestinian provocations, and ominous warnings from Cabinet ministers had convinced most Western diplomats in Tel Aviv that a new Israeli military thrust into Lebanon was inevitable. Some had even started a private book on the most likely date.

It is no secret that over the past few months, a number of leading figures in Israeli defence establishment have held talks with Lebanese Christian leaders from East Beirut. Little has been done here to dampen speculation that instead of repeating the 1978 Litani operation, a new Israeli invasion would include a plan to move from the north aimed at eliminating all Palestinian positions threatening Israel's vulnerable northern settlements.

Although Israeli generals and politicians continue to

insist that the air raids were "a warning" rather than an end to the ceasefire, observers in the Middle East were braced for possible Palestinian retaliation which could quickly spark a full-scale confrontation as The Jerusalem Post wrote yesterday: "Until yesterday afternoon the question was: will there be a war in Lebanon or will there not? Some good arguments could be marshalled in support of both possible answers. Now the question is: is this the war in Lebanon or is it not?"

There have, in any case, been serious Israeli doubts about the long-term viability of peace with an Egyptian Government which is determined to return to the Arab fold. In Jerusalem, little enthusiasm is to be found for President Mubarak's suggestion that Egypt could act as a peace-making bridge between Israel and the other Arabs.

Anxiety reached fever pitch following the recent non-aligned conference in Kuwait, when a lengthy speech by Egypt's delegate made no reference at all to the deadlocked talks on Palestinian autonomy, the lynchpin to the future viability of the Camp David framework.

Faced with accusations by many Israeli commentators (including Mr Ze'ev Schiff, the country's most respected military correspondent) that the government was whip-

pling up something of a false crisis over the impending Sinai handover, one official commented defensively: "We have got to make sure that future Egyptian moves are not paid in Israeli currency."

Doubts about the future of the peace process after April 25 are widespread at every level of Israeli society, even among those who strongly supported the peace treaty and still regard it as better than any readily available alternative.

The key to the concern was the murder last October of President Sadat and his smooth replacement by a man anxious to resume Egypt's Pan-Arab role. Outsiders are now reminded that Mr Begin is the only one of the three Camp David signatories still in power; and his shaky state of health is a constant source of gossip among Israeli politicians. Distrust of Egypt's attitude was increased when news leaked out of President Mubarak's reluctance to pay an official state visit to Jerusalem. The worries were whipped up by an Israeli administration which appeared to many observers to be deliberately overstressing the dangers inherent in its future relations with Egypt without the lever of the Sinai.

The genuine wave of national anxiety caused by the uprooting of Jews from the Sinai — heightened this

week by the forced eviction of many anti-withdrawal Israelis and the suicide threat issued by the members of the extreme right-wing Katch movement in a Yamit air-raid shelter — had almost certainly been given insufficient weight in Egypt, where there have been signs of a lack of flexibility during negotiations over the disputed international borderline due to come into effect on Sunday. "When you think of the thousands of square miles we are abandoning, you would have expected some flexibility over a few hundred yards", complained one Israeli official.

Inside Israel, where matters of strategy are very much the stuff of everyday conversation, there is a feeling that the new drive into Lebanon — a policy greatly favoured by the hawkish defence minister, Mr Ariel Sharon, — will provide the first test of the Egyptian strength of Israeli-Egyptian relations, because it may well embroil Syria.

The other test is most likely to occur in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where resentment over 15 years of occupation has recently risen to a new pitch because of Israel's security clampdown and the shooting of Muslim worshippers in the shadow of the sacred Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest shrine of Islam.

To those unfamiliar with

the religious passions provoked by Jerusalem's holy places, the strength of fury caused by the shooting is hard to convey. For once, the hyperbolic claim by young Palestinians that they were prepared to bare their chests against Israeli bullets seemed not to be much of an exaggeration.

The grim mood in Gaza was described by the moderate Arab mayor, Mr Rashad ash-Shawa. "Israeli troops had wounded some 100 local Arabs with bullets in a period of a few weeks and killed others. 'We have reached the point where many of our people feel they have nothing more to lose', he said. 'There is now a mood of despair which could have very dangerous consequences'."

Apart from the depressing probability that the embryonic peace with Egypt will continue to be fraught with difficulties, confident prediction beyond the milestone of April 25 are hazardous in such a volatile region. But few now doubt that the possibility of an Israeli military push into Lebanon and the explosive issue of Israeli control of the West Bank will be the two issues which will predominate once the Star of David is lowered over the Sinai on Sunday for the last time.

Christopher Walker

How a meat Bill could leave a bad taste

As it reaches report stage in the Commons today, there is a sudden and unexpected threat to Norman Atkinson's private member's Bill aimed at ending the trade in unfit meat.

Thus far it has enjoyed a smooth passage, but now an amendment in the name of Peggy Fenner appears on the order paper with Government support. Its effect would be to ease the defences available under Section 113 of the Food and Drugs Act, modelling them instead on the more recent Consumer Safety Act which has already been declared unsatisfactory by the trading standards officers charged with its enforcement.

Under the Food and Drugs Act a person charged with an offence who wants to show that it is someone else's fault is obliged to name them and bring them before the court as a co-defendant. Admittedly this is not easy now that more food is imported. The requirement would be dropped under Fenner's amendment. Yet it was only in February 1980 that Peter Walker scrapped a review of the Food and Drugs Act which had been in progress since the middle of the last Labour government, announcing that no major changes were required in the legislation.

The Fenner amendment would to some extent negate Atkinson's proposals for stiffer penalties. If other aspects of the legislation are now to be reconsidered, it would be better if the Govern-

ment paid more attention to the law's deficiencies. There is, for example, no power for central government to remove unfit foodstuffs from the market. It all depends on local enforcement.

That means that if ever something like the Spanish olive oil disaster occurred here — which God forbid — we would not be all that much better prepared to deal with it than the Spanish were.

How easily misled these Celts are. John Home Robertson, MP for Berwick and East Lothian, sent back an artificial red rose which he, in common with all other MPs, was invited to "wear with pride upon St George's day" by the Times. He has been particularly upset by the accompanying brochure, "Songs of England" listed Auld Lang Syne.

True story

There is a more interesting performer card for the new BBC 1 thriller, *Bird of Prey*, than the well-publicized Mandy Rice-Davies. In the final episode of the serial (the first was shown last night) Christopher Logue, the poet, emerges as the Mr Big of the plot, a crooked Euro-MP called Jardine. It is a strange story for Logue, who crumples the even weirder *True Stories for Private Eye*, to find himself mixed up in it. He is kidnapped by a fat civil servant and held at a secret location which is, in reality, the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Logue — whose collected

THE TIMES DIARY

There used to be jokes on the backs of matchboxes, and sometimes there still are. Bryant & May have launched for St George's Day a series of Brynmor matchboxes on the theme: "Why Britain is Great!"

Predictably many of the chosen quotations suggest that the greatness of Britain was somehow built upon matches. Thus Shirley Williams says: "Why Britain is Great!"

poems *Ode to the Dodo*, were published last year — has hitherto eschewed villainy in his dramatic career, concentrating instead on religion and philosophy. His previous roles on stage have been Socrates, the Player King in Hamlet, John Ball and Cardinal Richelieu in Ken Russell's *The Devils*.

Hird instinct

Christopher Hird of The Sunday Times has been overwhelmingly recommended for the editorship of the New Statesman by the advisory group which has been considering candidates to succeed Bruce Page. The staff-dominated group voted six to one in his favour. The one dissenting voice, that of board member Anthony Sampson, spoke for Hugh Stephenson, former editor of The Times Business News. The vote by no means assures Hird the final selection. When

he is a deep insult to the whole of the staff if they do not make Christopher Hird editor. It would lead to a lot of unnecessary aggravation and the staff of the SDP would be more than ready to back the group's recommendation. So there could be more trouble ahead.

High tech Mac

Scotland, so long the victim of its haggis-fed, dram-dripping stereotypes, has a new image. An exhibition at Simpson in Piccadilly drives out the view of a stag infested wilderness of misty glens and grubby crofters, cluttering it with a shower of microchips, heavy duty robotics and telecommunication antennae. The exhibition, opened by the Earl of Mansfield, Minister of State in the Scottish Office, is appropriately hosted by Simpson, whose associated company, Dakas, has just ordered the most advanced computerized clothing-cutting system in Europe for its factory at Larkhall in Lanarkshire. They tell me they do not see a lot of handwoven Harris tweed these days.

Young pros

Leonard Weaver, managing director of the management consultants PE International, has been musings during the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Institute of Management Consultants as to which other profession his own is best compared. A vice-president of the institute, Weaver thinks management consultancy is the newest pro-

612 They do solve the crisis we'll have forgotten how to fill the paper...



fession and has much in common with the oldest. "Our pitch is being queried by amateurs," he says. "Also young consultants. Like ladies of the night, go in because the money is good. Once they are in they find it is not so good, but they like the variety so they stay in. And after 20 years of it they are no good for anything else."

Tea taster

PHS took tea yesterday afternoon with Sam Twining. His family have been in the business for nine generations and he knows his Lapsang Souchong from his Orange Pekoe. Teas like wines, are selected by expert tasters. They are sipped

from specially prepared samples with a tasting spoon, spread over the palate, rolled around the mouth to detect pungency and then spat out.

Twining says the green leaf teas, originally from China, are the white wines, black teas the red, and Formosa Oolong with a fragrance reminiscent of ripe peaches the rose.

A mine of immemorial information, Twining adds that on average every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand and Australia drinks four and a half cups of tea a day.

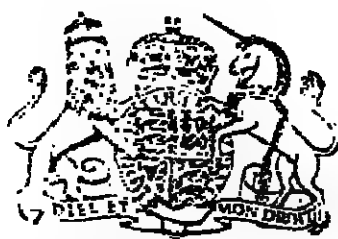
He also says that tea should never be left to brew beyond its time in the pot. Use an infuser, and never a cosy without one.

So, visibly horrified do American audiences find Michael Winner's *Death Trap*, I am told, that as the moment approaches when Michael Caine and Christopher Reeves kiss each other the customers at Loew's cinema on Broadway rise in their seats and yell: "Don't do it, Superman!"

Answers here on Monday.

PHS

Pending the no infallibility, have been made mistakes, detect and they will a Justice innocent punished usually decisions. True range defendants: their sentences are limitless mass reviews. In the Court has on occasion the House of Lords inquiries by and the pre-exercised by retray advice that not enough. It is not rate. The Court will rances of thi



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 22: The Queen this afternoon visited the King George VI Club for the Elderly at St James's Palace on its 25th Anniversary.

Having been received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Berkshire (Colonel the Marquess of Blandford) and the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Councillor Arthur Jacob), the Queen toured the Club, escorted by the Chairman (Mr Stanley Platt), and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Mr John Douglas, Sir William Harcourt and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance. His Excellency the Philippines Ambassador, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Singapore and Mrs Jek, the Lord and Lady Fort, the Right Hon Sir Kenneth Joseph, Bt, MP, Sir Peter and Lady Saunders, the Reverend Professor Owen Chadwick, DD, and Mrs Chadwick and the Reverend Fred and Mrs Wilson have arrived at the Castle.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 22: The Prince and Princess of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, continued their visit to the Isles of Scilly today.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this afternoon opened and toured the new Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Building of Birmingham Children's Hospital and was received upon arrival at Birmingham New Street Station by Major W. G. Mills (Deputy Lieutenant, County of West Midlands).

This evening The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Countess of Sandwich, accompanied by the Lord-Lieutenant of the County of West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford) and the County Commissioner, St John Ambulance (Mr A. J. Sunderland), Her Royal Highness, attended by Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, travelled in the Royal Train.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 22: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning visited Smithfield Market. Lady Jean Rankin, Sir Martin Gillman and Captain Ashe Windham were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 22: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, present today at a Luncheon given by Sony (UK) Limited at the Institute of Directors, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President. Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 22: The Duke of Gloucester as Colonel-in-Chief was present at the Colonel Commandants and Directors Royal Pioneer Corps Dinner Night 1982 at Simpson Barracks, Wootton Bassett, Northamptonshire, this evening. Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
April 22: The Duke of Kent this evening gave a dinner party in honour of the President of the United Republic of Cameroon at 1 Carlton Gardens, London, SW1.

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Buckley, RN was in attendance. The Duchess of Kent today opened the new Village Hall at Meonstoke, undertook engagements in Fareham and later, at Bordon, opened the new Sandes Centre at Bordon Camp, Hampshire.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft, was attended by Mrs David Napier.

Lady Gabriella Windsor, daughter of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, is one year old today. A memorial service for Sir Keith Taylor will be held in St Paul's Cathedral today at noon.

Lord and Lady Pritchard regret not being able to attend the service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Keith Taylor in St Paul's Cathedral at noon today because of their absence abroad.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon R. D. A. Faulkner and Miss B. G. Wilson

The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Lady Faulkner and the late Lord Faulkner of Downpatrick, of Highgate, London, and Miss B. G. Wilson, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Elliott Wilson, of White Lodge, Boardwalk, Co. Down.

Mr D. K. Beckett and Miss S. J. Lloyd
The engagement is announced between Douglas, elder son of Mr Keith Beckett, of Wiltshire, and Miss S. J. Lloyd, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. E. Lloyd, of Orington, Kent.

Mr J. A. I. Champion and Miss L. M. Muller
The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. A. I. Champion, of Southampton, and Lucy, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. E. Muller, of Titchfield, Hampshire.

Mr P. S. Ellis and Miss S. J. Beros
The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. S. Ellis, of Prestbury, Cheshire, and Sara Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. A. Burns, of Segr Green, Essex.

Mr W. J. Furber and Miss R. E. Taylor
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs W. J. Furber, of Blackheath, London, and Rosemary, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. E. Taylor, of Belmont, Belfast.

Mr D. J. Jackson and Miss S. J. Strickland
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. J. Jackson, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, and Susan Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. J. Strickland, of South Chalfont, Essex.

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The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs I. W. Reeves, of Dunster Road, Hillside, Southport, Lancashire, and Christine, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. C. Huxtable, of Bod Henlos, Gwent, near Ruthin, Clwyd, North Wales.

Dr D. A. Jonathan and Miss H. J. Sherry
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. A. Jonathan, of Prestbury, Cheshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. J. Sherry, of Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Commander D. J. H. Robinson and Miss V. W. Nelson
The engagement is announced between Robbie Robinson, of the Sultan of Oman's Navy, and Valerie Nelson, of the British Embassy, Muscat.

Mr N. J. Warwick and Miss S. A. Sheldrick
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs N. J. Warwick, of Gibbet Hill, Coventry, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. A. Sheldrick, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

The Rev S. J. A. Weston and Miss C. L. W. Wells
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of the Rev Canon S. J. A. Weston, and Miss C. L. W. Wells, of the Rectory, Oxford, and Catherine, younger daughter of the late S. J. Wells and Mrs P. S. Wells, of Chesham, Buckinghamshire.

Marriages
Captain P. J. Dean and Miss A. R. Britton
The marriage took place on April 17 at the Church of St Philip and St James, Clifton, York, between Captain Philip James Dean, 10th PMO Gurkha Rifles, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. M. Dean, of Giggleswick, North Yorkshire, and Miss Angela Britton, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. W. Britton, of York. The Rev Neil Mackay officiated. Mr Paul Dean was best man.

Commander R. G. E. Howe, RN and Mrs J. M. C. Steel
The marriage took place in London on March 29 between Commander Richard Howe and Mrs Jane Steel.

OBITUARY

DR JANET AITKEN

Specialist in juvenile diseases

Dr Janet Kerr Aitken, CBE, FRCP, who died on April 21 at the age of 96 had been consulting physician to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital; to the Princess Louise Kensington Hospital for Children; and the Mothers (Salvation Army) Hospital, Clapton. She had also been a member of the Central Health Services Council of the Council of the Royal College of Physicians, and of the Council of the British Medical Association.

Janet Kerr Aitken was born in Buenos Aires in 1886 of Scottish parents, and was educated at St Leonard's School, St Andrews, and at the London School of Medicine for Women (Royal Free Hospital) where she qualified as MRCS, LRCP (1922), MB, BS London (1923), MD (1924) and MRCP (1926).

VICE-ADMIRAL EVELINO TEIXEIRA DA MOTA

Vice-Admiral Evelino Teixeira da Mota, who died on April 1, was a remarkable scholar and a man of action, who in some ways resembled the Renaissance Portuguese pioneers about whom he wrote so well.

A professional naval officer, who saw service in the Indian Ocean and the Atlantic during World War II, his Portuguese neutrality had to be delicately balanced, he subsequently served for some years in West Africa, particularly in (then) Portuguese Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands.

His commanding officer, and later Colonial Minister, Admiral Sarmento Rodrigues, realised his exceptional qualities and gave them full scope. He became successively an anthropologist, an ethnologist, and a historian of cartography and of nautical science, who had few equals and no superiors.

DR J. GEORGE HARRAR

W. A. C. Mathieson writes: His many friends and admirers in Britain, and indeed throughout the world, will be saddened to learn of the death in Scarborough, North York, on April 18, of Dr J. George Harrar.

George Harrar was a creative agricultural scientist, who always sought a practical application for his research. As the director in the 1940s with his long-term vision, he was the driving force behind the establishment of the International Agricultural Research Centre, which today directs and sustains a worldwide network of tropical agricultural centres and services. On retirement from his notable service as president of the Rockefeller Foundation-Mexico Cooperative Programme in Agricultural Research and Development, he laid work foundations for the evolution of this endeavour into the International Centre for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT), headquartered in Mexico but global in impact. He was the father of what came to be known as "The Green Revolution".

Harrar himself never made extravagant claims for

The pensions industry

Today in Bournemouth Mr Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary, addresses members of the National Association of Pension Funds on the economic realities confronting their £50,000m industry.

John Whitmore takes up the theme.

Pensions may not be in the public spotlight at the moment as they have sometimes been in the past. But these are still interesting days in the pensions world, as the political engineers struggle to upgrade the British economic machine.

Unless that is accomplished, our hopes of a comfortable retirement could be rudely shattered. For, as the Chancellor told the National Association of Pension Funds at the Birmingham conference last May: "Our society has locked itself into providing benefits without having made the economic adjustments necessary to sustain them."

That said, it is perhaps too easy to be excessively gloomy about the British economy — and, by extension, pension prospects. The performance of the last couple of years has, in fact, been depressed. And it is also true that the prospect of the world becoming still more competitive through the 1980s would not seem to augur well for a country that has been frustratingly slower to adapt to change than many of its more successful competitors.

Yet, if one looks back over the 1970s, it is at least arguable that our economic performance has been less disastrous than is commonly perceived. In the decade to 1979 — before the recent recession started — output grew by 23 per cent in real terms and real disposable incomes by no less than 37 per cent.

Moreover, the recession itself has forced many managements to take the long overdue measures needed to keep them internationally competitive. And one hopes there are sufficient companies who see the advent of a period of rapid technological change as offering significant new opportunities for growth rather than as the likely cause of the British economy's final undoing.

But should the Jeremiahs turn out to be right, what then? There are a number of scenarios one can draw, some more threatening to pensions than others.

The worst would be our prolonged economic stagnation, or even marginal contraction. Quite apart from the fact that this would imply falling living standards, both in work and in retirement, for certain sectors of the population, it strongly suggests that benefits in general would have to be spread more thinly.

A rather less pessimistic scenario might be one in which the economy continued to grow in line with the 1970s trend — i.e. at just over 2 per cent a year — but with living standards stagnating as the terms of trade turned against us.

In that case nominal pension commitments would probably be met, but that would not be the end of the matter. For the implication of a steadily depreciating exchange rate would be steadily rising prices and a severe squeeze on those with fixed incomes.

In short, one would march straight back into the debate on inflation-proofing pensions — and the cost. In the 1970s some occupational private sector schemes went a long way, sometimes the whole way, towards protecting pensioners from inflation. But in the schemes used in the Scott Report exercises the average protection afforded against inflation had been running at no more than 50-55 per cent.

As the new state scheme comes into its own, an increasing proportion of pensions will automatically become inflation-proofed out of state coffers (or, more correctly, the taxpayers' pockets). But that would still leave occupational schemes with plenty to do, particularly where there was a relatively large membership with above average earnings.

Indeed, for many schemes, full inflation proofing remains an impossible commitment without a major adjustment either to contributions or the basic benefit. And that is before one comes to the question of whether or not the State would be able to keep to its own commitment on inflation-proofing.

There might have to be some re-thinking on the scope of the earnings-related element of the State pension or some redefinition of the basis for inflation-proofing.

Arguably, the concept of inflation-proofing based on the movement in retail prices is ill-founded. It suggests that all those enjoying the benefit of indexation are entitled to a standard of living the country may not be earning. Sooner rather than later the Government should consider modifying the concept of indexation to allow for such factors as changes in the terms of trade, indirect taxation etc.

That might complicate what has the merit of being a relatively simple system. But it would reduce the risk of dangerous distortions in the economy and provide a better way of ensuring that the community as a whole shared equitably in any general change in the level of living standards.

A third scenario would be the one to which we tend to cling, for the paradoxical reason that the world has become so volatile that we no longer really know what to predict. This is a future in which both output and living standards remain broadly in line with past trends. In that case the emphasis will turn more to views on the rates of return likely to be available.

Here it is perhaps possible to be rather more optimistic (unless one believes in a change in government that will produce some fairly unscrupulous direction of investment). Discounting platitudes on the justice of savers getting a fair crack of



Pensioners of Reed International on an outing: an illustration from Reed Pension Trust's 1981 annual report, which was commended in this year's Golden Pen Award competition, run by the NAPP (see page 19).

the whip, the fact is that investors now have index-linked stocks, what look to be historically high prospective real returns on other government paper, and the slow rehabilitation of the concept and reality of corporate profitability.

One could produce other scenarios — perhaps of an even more optimistic nature. But for the pension funds it is not only going to be what happens to the overall economy that matters but also what happens to employment. And here it is not impossible that the best scenario for living standards could be one that minimizes employment.

Nobody really knows. Will technological change simply leave us with a permanently smaller and diminishing workforce? Or will the structure of the economy change in a way that will bring about a return to "full employment" accompanied by large redeployments of the labour force?

In the latter case there could be major changes in the relative sizes of companies and their pension funds; and that would suggest potential transitional problems, particularly as pressure mounts for a better deal on transfer rights.

In the former case, the total numbers in the population with a claim to long-term benefits would rise significantly. The idea of the school-leaver becoming a pensioner immediately is unpleasant and, hopefully, far-fetched. But a sustained trend toward a large number of people out of work or having to share work for a good part of their lives, or simply retiring early, could well have major implications for the proportion of resources to be devoted to the traditional pensioner.

How employees lose out when they change jobs

Last June the Occupational Pensions Board published its long-awaited report on *Improved Protection for the Occupational Pension Rights and Expectations of Early Leavers*. Since that date, there has been desultory debate of the report's conclusions and recommendations. But sadly it looks as though the report will suffer the same fate as most of its predecessors, and be conveniently swept under the carpet.

The problem, however, will not go away. The much increased incidence of company closures, takeovers, mergers and liquidations following in the wake of recession has massively swelled the ranks of the unemployed and redundant. These former employees suffer the double blow of losing both their job and a substantial proportion of their pension rights. While the former may be unavoidable, the latter is not.

Most of the 11,500,000 employees in company pension schemes expect to retire on a pension related to their salary at retirement date. The exact proportion of final salary will depend on the number of years the employee has been a member of the company pension scheme.

Commonly the formula is one-sixteenth of final salary for each year of service, providing a life-long employee with the maximum allowed by the Inland Revenue, two-thirds of final salary.

The early leaver — whether a job changer moving voluntarily or a redundant employee — receives frozen pension benefits based on salary at the time of leaving — clearly a much less attractive proposition. It has been estimated that an employee who changes jobs just once in his working life receives only 60 per cent of the pension benefits of those who stay with one employer.

The main recommendation of the OPB's report is that "early leavers should receive the same benefits for their years of pensionable service as their fellow members who stay in the same employment to pension age." In practice

this would mean uprating frozen pension benefits to take account of inflation in the time between an employee leaving, and retirement age.

Regrettably the OPB's recommendations were largely rejected by the pension industry's main trade organization, the National Association of Pension Funds.

Yet the Association's own statistics demonstrate just how badly legislation is needed. The NAPP's survey for 1980 revealed that 73 per cent of all occupational pension schemes give no increases at all on deferred pensions, and in the private sector, only 18 per cent of schemes improved benefits for early leavers during 1980. Of those fortunate enough to be granted some uprating of frozen pension benefits, the actual increases granted were more than twice as good in the public sector schemes.

The NAPP's objections understandably centre on the potential cost to employers of improving early leavers' benefits. However, there are others within the industry who are embarrassed by the NAPP's apparent refusal even to acknowledge that the early leaver deserves a fair deal.

The Association correctly points out the difficulties of redistributing finite resources — "priorities once established are difficult to change and can only be changed to the advantage of one section at the expense of another."

But this ignores the fact that most employees become early leavers at some point in their career. The NAPP has centred its criticisms of the OPB's proposals on the possible extra cost to employers, choosing to ignore the simple compromise of diverting any future improvement in pension benefits towards a fair share of the pension cake for early leavers and pensioners, rather than uprating benefits for stayers. This would cost employers nothing.

And its view of pensions is positively feudal. "What the NAPP deplores is the implicit assumption that in some way early leavers are not getting normal justice, that they are being denied rights," says the NAPP.

"We know that some early leavers are genuinely surprised to discover the consequences of their move in pension terms. Normally the employer invests a great deal in recruiting and training and would hope to amortize this over a period of years, possibly over something approaching a full career."

This outdated attitude towards employees and their pension fund entitlement persists in some firms, but in today's climate of forced redundancy and high unemployment, the unfairness of this approach becomes increasingly apparent.

The OPB in its report is quite clear about the poor chance of employers voluntarily improving the plight of early leavers, saying they "feared voluntary action would be too slow in achieving adequate and widespread improvements and the board agreed on the need for some statutory action to require these increases". The board is, however, split on how far employers should be forced by law to uprate the frozen pension benefits of early leavers.

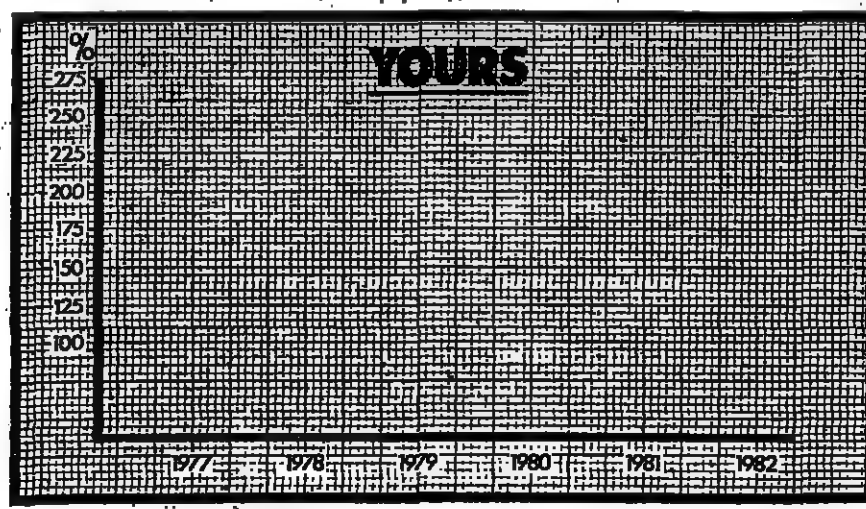
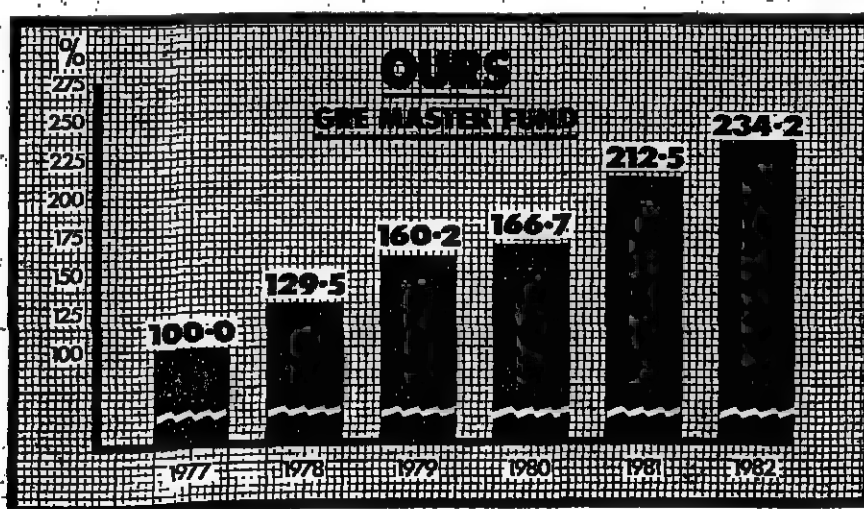
Most of the board opted for increases each year in line with average earnings up to a maximum of 5 per cent compound a year. A minority on the board wanted mandatory increases in line with average earnings — or if a statutory ceiling were imposed it should be at least 8.5 per cent a year.

At the moment, the debate on early leavers' pension rights has gone cold.

The one glimmer of light has been the acceptance by the Inland Revenue and the OPB of a new pension scheme set up by Insurers London and Manchester which offers early leavers the facility to take a transfer value from an occupational pension scheme and invest it in a personal pension plan, thereby enhancing the benefits paid on retirement.

If more insurers follow suit, the pension funds may be forced to improve deferred pension benefits, to prevent all their early leavers from taking a transfer value and massively depleting the funds' resources.

Lorna Bourke



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PENSIONS

Odd man out overdue for reform

"To most people the investment made by or for them in a pension fund is, apart from their home, the only substantial investment that they will have. ... Of all investments it is, perhaps, the least regulated." So writes Professor Jim Gower in his recent report on investor protection, ordered by the Government last year through the Department of Trade after the collapse of a number of investment management groups, most spectacularly Norton Warburg.

Professor Gower says in his report that a full-scale discussion and suggestions for the revision of the law governing pension funds is beyond the scope of his review, which sprang from the need to update the aged Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act. But he clearly thinks that pensions are now well overdue for a legislative overhaul and outlines several of the existing anomalies.

"There is no specific statutory regime for pension funds", he reports. "They depend simply on the law of trusts. ... Whereas unit trusts are subject additionally to rigorous regulation, pension funds are not." The Occupational Pensions Board, Gower points out, has a limited role. "Apart from these checks the only protection of the beneficiaries is the possibility of suing the trustees for breach of trust."

The idea of legislation for the pensions industry is not new. The Wilson Report, quoted by Gower, said: "The framework within which they (pension funds) operate has grown piecemeal and now needs to be systematized and strengthened. It is unsatisfactory that so much of it should depend on a body of trust law developed for quite other purposes."

In a nutshell the argument is: here is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, financial industries in the country, more often than not permitted to demand a proportion of employees' earnings as contributions; yet there is no tailor-made legislation or regulations to police it. The pensions industry is the odd man out in a world where other forms of collective investment are tightly controlled.

Predictably, many in the pensions industry — but by no means all, are against the idea of any special legislation. At last year's annual conference of the National Association of Pension Funds in Brighton, Mr Maurice Oldfield, chairman of the NAPF, pointed out that during the 58 years of the association's existence no pension funds had gone bust, although many companies had done so.

This, it should be pointed out, is no thanks to the NAPF, which does not necessarily scrutinize the books of its members and has been noticeably backward in instituting rules and regulations among its members. However, it did institute a code of practice on information to members of pension schemes in 1980.

It would be impossible to imagine a situation where a pension fund goes spectacularly bust like Norton Warburg — the fund is restricted on how many of its investment eggs it can put in one basket and precautions are taken against the obvious risk that a pension fund goes bust alongside the company it is attached to.

The source of most discontent is the relationship of the members to the fund. The fact that while they are often forcibly herded into occupational pension schemes joining the pension scheme is frequently a condition of employment they have, in law, very few rights.

There is no statutory requirement to tell pension fund members very much about their money. The NAPF encourages its members to furnish fund managers with regular and understandable information. Perhaps the best way of

showing the deficiencies is to look at what a pension fund member can do if he does not like some aspect of fund policy in benefits. While pension funds have inclined in recent years to take notice of the political implications of their investment policies — on South African holdings for instance — and have often nominated a token trade unionist as one of the trustees, members have had less influence on benefits.

If a fund makes dreadfully unprofitable investments there is nothing the member can do unless the fund managers have breached the trust deeds. That is difficult to prove. Some people have persisted and won — most notably in the case of Evans v London Cooperative Society.

One reason why pension managers are terrified of any legislation beefing up members' rights is what happens in the United States. Where lawsuits are frequently and often frivolously launched against funds that have under-performed. Even those who think we should have pension fund legislation in this country want to avoid that situation.

By and large realistic increases in pensions in payment are at the discretion of the trustees of the pension fund. This, and the fact that early leavers are generally discriminated against, is a very grey area. Strictly speaking, under trust law all beneficiaries should be treated the same — that is the original concept. In practice, this does not seem to be the case with regard to pension funds.

Who is to regulate the fund managers? In the City there is a confusing variety of codes which Professor Gower would like to see incorporated into new legislation. There seems absolutely no reason why the pension fund industry should not be included.

Margaret Drummond

Cruising confidently in neutral

"Our aim has been to maintain confidence", said Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, in the Commons on March 23. He was moving the adoption of the orders relating to the first review of the contracting-out terms established under the provisions of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975.

In responding, the Opposition spokesman, Mr Brynmor John, admitted that "none of us understands fully what has happened", and he went on to suggest that "a simpler formula must be found".

Mr Anthony Newton, the newly appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary, made the encouraging observation that "we have not closed the door on any further consideration of the arrangements". His observation will doubtless be responded to positively and constructively by pensioners' practitioners.

But what does all this really mean? Mr John's admission was correct — even those of us devoting our lifetime work to this subject find many of its intricacies fearfully complex — but in asking for a simpler formula, he may well be seeking the impossible. Hopefully, however, a more equitable long-term formula can be found for the buy-back terms.

The Secretary of State confined himself to principles and political considerations, knowing that if he got this review wrong the repercussions could be formidable. Clearly Mr Fowler's aim is right, and in moving the adoption of the orders, he referred to representations made to him by the influential Occupational Pensions Scheme Joint Working Group (JWG), and to their emphasis on the need to maintain confidence if the status quo was to be retained. There was, in the event, general agreement that the terms of this, the first of the quinquennial reviews under the statute, should be neutral in effect.

Neutrality is not capable of precise definition, of course. Some have claimed that a revised abatement of NI contributions of 6 per cent is neutral while others have advocated 6½ per cent. It is perhaps unsurprising that the result is 6½ per cent.

Such a compromise can in no way undermine confidence. It is highly unlikely that any company would wish to consider the trauma of altering its 1978 decision on the basis of the difference in its share of a quarter per cent abatement of relevant earnings — especially as its distribution is marginally in favour of the employer's

contributions at the expense of the employees.

The buy-back terms are another matter. These are the terms on which a contracted-out employment can cease to be contracted out and the members of the appropriate scheme bought back into the state scheme. It can be argued that these terms are largely irrelevant, if the decision to contract-out was validly made on a long-term basis.

Even then, there is no compulsion, on ceasing to be contracted-out, to buy back into the state scheme, although it will be desirable for trustees to know they can do so. For instance, if the actuary were to express concern at his ability to sign a solvency certificate, the trustees would find themselves in an embarrassing position.

Nevertheless, the new terms to apply from April 6, 1983, for the period 1983/88 are worse than those now operating. They are only marginally better than the economy is really moving according to forecasts, with interest rates (and inflation) moving down into a tolerable area.

They are significantly worse if we are to remain in the higher interest realms of the last four years; and it should, anyway, be recalled that we are measuring the change against terms that have turned out, because of exceptionally high interest rates, to be more generous than foreseen. A reasonable balance has to be kept between those who are contracted out (approximately 45 per cent of the working population) and those who are not (approximately 55 per cent).

"Pensions" practitioners, through the JWG, foresaw the coming difficulties. In May 1981 they took the initiative of placing before the then Secretary of State their own review of the contracting-out terms. This was followed by the Government's "Acting" Secretary of State, Mr Norman Fowler, in August on which his report to Parliament would be based. The response to that memorandum made it clear there were differences of opinion. Further consultation took place, but by then the clock was for dialogue had become impossibly short, and when the orders were finally laid a quite different adjustment to the buy-back terms was tabled.

Nevertheless, it has been made abundantly clear in Parliament that the Government is open to further representation, and indeed to change if a reasonable

alternative is brought forward for its consideration. The last-minute change to the buy-back terms may no prove to be serious, especially as the new terms are to be phased in over a period of five years. Their full impact will not be felt until 1987/88 — by which time it may be only minimal; long before then the terms will have been subjected to the most detailed scrutiny, perhaps leading to further change.

There will be prophets of doom who, for their own reasons, will regard the latest review as an opportunity to undermine the status quo. There will also be confused thinking by, for instance, many US-owned companies, in trying to pursue their philosophy of integrating their own pension provision with the social security system of the country in which they are operating, which still fail to understand that the most effective form of integration in the UK is through contracting-out.

Some companies will continue to consider contracting-out the wrong option. But in describing as a "major success" the fact that some 90 per cent of members of schemes are contracted-out, Mr Fowler has underlined that option, frequently selected after consultation with unions, is a welcome one. It will be a very brave employer (or perhaps a remarkably foolish one) who will seek to overturn his previous decision on the basis of this review.

In the debate in the House, both Mr Brynmor John and Mr Robert McCrindle took the opportunity to feature the apparent failings of occupational schemes. We can only hope that they, and others, will eventually realize that these criticisms have little to do with the construction of such schemes. They have everything to do with the deployment of limited resources and the ordering of priorities.

There is no reason to suppose that confidence has been undermined. To the extent that employers (and employees) see in it a direct financial gain, this review should certainly be used as an additional resource to ameliorate the position of early leavers and pensioners. But there is a lot more talking to be done with the Government over the buy-back terms.

Derek Bandey

The author is president of the Society of Pension Consultants and chairman of the Occupational Pensions Scheme Joint Working Group.

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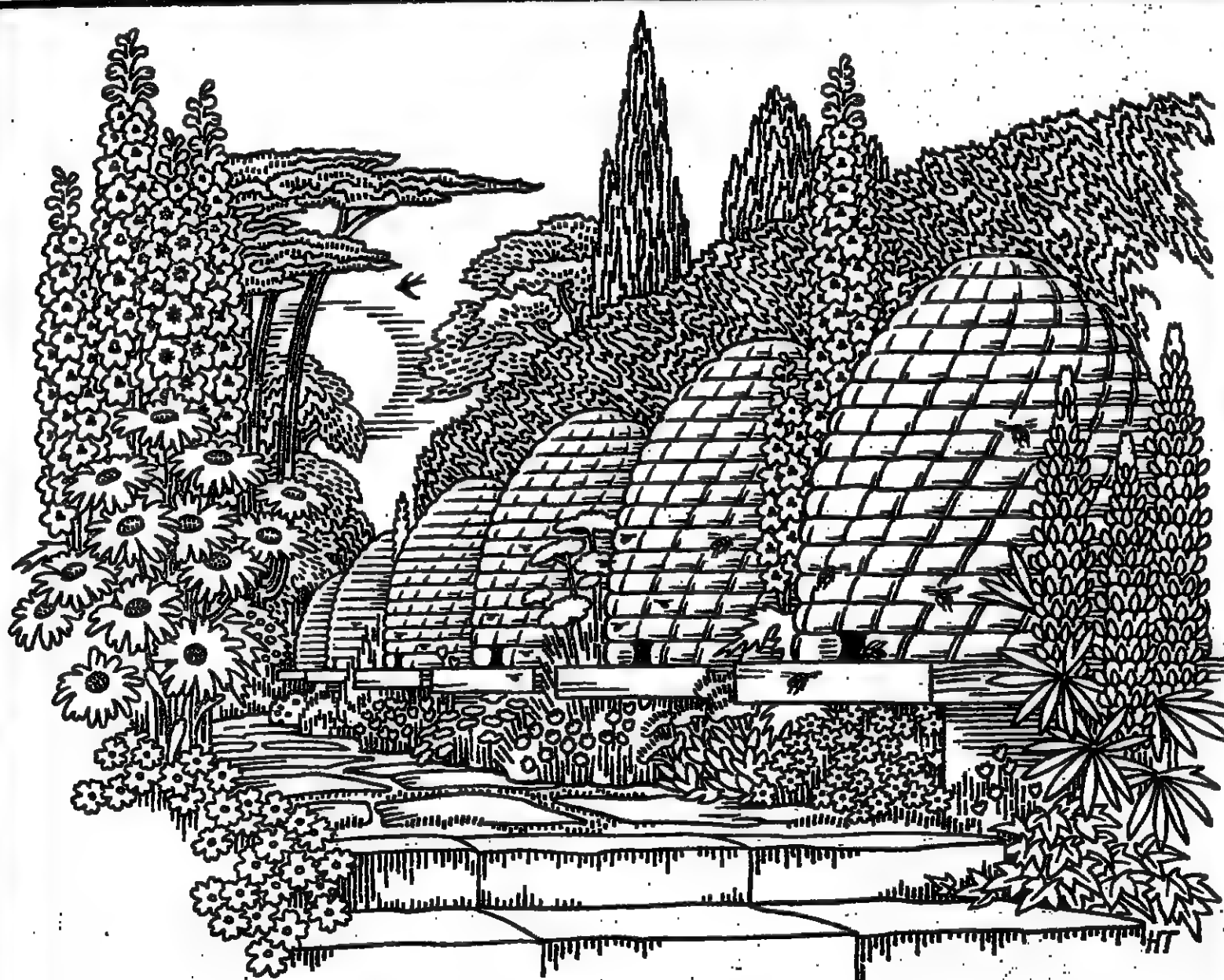
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Index linked: why the good news looked bad

Ironically, the week many fund managers may most readily recall about the maiden year of index-linked government securities will be the one in which they made (or could have made) a 10 point killing in these stocks.

That, of course, happened in the couple of days after the Chancellor announced in his recent Budget that index-linked gilts would in future be available to all comers and not just to pension funds.

For the first time one was able to see the enormous gearing inherent in these stocks come into its own. The sudden change in circumstances that led the market to change its perception of the appropriate real return from one of around three per cent to one of around 24 per cent produced what has been some of the sharpest short-term movements in government bonds ever seen.

Yet initially this very surge in prices looked to be potentially very bad news for pension funds for the longer term. After all, the argument that had originally led the funds to push the yields up to three per cent had not changed — the argument being that the stocks should offer at least a small premium over the long-term trend of a two per cent per annum increase in real wages.

So, with yields down to 24 per cent or so, was the premium getting too small, even allowing for the "certainty" value of the stocks?

The answer is probably yes, though it is not that simple. For what happened when the Government offered its first restricted stock was that the pension funds sat on the sidelines, and so did everyone else. The big new demand that had been expected failed to materialize.

Since then the yield has dropped back to around 24 per cent; the funds can probably take the view that for the moment at least they are back in the driving seat, on the assumption that the Government would like to

make further issues of such stock in the new financial year.

This does not mean that non-pension fund demand might not appear in size at some future stage, though if the Government does want to issue, say, £2,500m of new stock per year, then it would have to be in some size to make a significant impact on the yield. That demand would be most likely to appear as inflationary expectations started to worsen, with overseas buyers possibly coming in as they felt that the exchange rate risk of worsening inflation had been largely discounted.

Apart from interest in the index-linked stocks as investments in their own right, the advent of the ILs has also provided a useful benchmark for comparing other kinds of investment. To the extent that this has helped crystallize thoughts on investment strategy, and possibly to modify them in some instances, the impact may well be working its way through to relative prices in the marketplace itself.

But here one is on much more tentative ground. Take, for example, the conventional fixed-rate gilt-edged market. Real yields are historically high at the moment — certainly they are far higher than one would have expected, given the official forecast of inflation at around 7½ per cent by this time next year.

One cannot ascribe this phenomenon solely to the availability of index-linked stocks. Quite clearly, the explanation lies largely in the absence of exchange controls and the even higher real yields offered by US bonds.

Even so, it seems likely to believe that in more normal times the existence of index-linked stocks is bound to prevent gilt-edged yields moving towards zero (or less) quite in the way they have tended to in the past.

The linkage here will probably become more evident over time. Given the vagaries of the yield it may possibly become more appar-

Housing attracts investment

The Building Trust, launched in January this year and chaired by Sir Monty Finniston, is a pioneering venture into what is, for pension funds, largely uncharted territory: the provision of loans for private home purchase.

Funds supporting the trust, which has an authorized capital of £100,000, include Marks and Spencer, Allied Breweries and the Post Office Superannuation Fund. In the following article, Robin Ellison, a solicitor and the trust's managing director, explains its philosophy and looks at prospects for expansion in the same field.

Investment in housing usually means either rented property, building society mortgages, or speculative house-building. Each has had its drawbacks for pension fund trustees. Rented property has been surrounded for a long period by legislative control and political activism and has caused a sour taste in the mouths of many major institutions. Building society mortgages, even today, give compared with what the market can offer. Speculative housebuilding is a somewhat risky form of investment, unable to satisfy the trust requirements of most pension funds.

Coupled with the difficulties of administration of mortgage portfolios, these drawbacks have deterred almost all pension funds from lending on housing — government figures last year indicated that only 21m of the £70,000m assets of funds were allocated in this way.

Now there seems to be a reversal of trends. The attractions, in principle, of investing in housing are obvious — a good return coupled with unparalleled security. In practice it seems that the only way in which pension funds can satisfactorily help to alleviate the insatiable demand for private housing is by providing mortgages.

Trust law suggests that mortgage are a wholly satisfactory form of asset for trust funds. The experience of the Depression showed that even in the worst times, mortgagors were determined

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Prudential

Closer look at the figures

The complexities of pension funds may baffle the financially unsophisticated, but actuarial statements can hardly rate bedside reading even for the investment professionals. It is hardly surprising, then, that for years most companies with occupational pension schemes felt no burning desire to communicate with members.

Employees, it was thought, wouldn't understand a pension fund report, even if they were interested enough to want to read it in the first place.

Although pension fund members have few statutory rights to regular information, and the practice of sending out reports to them automatically is by no means universal, communications are improving. Two years ago the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF) instituted the Golden Pen awards for pension funds which submitted the best reports for members.

Yesterday the NAPF announced the winners for 1982. The judges were Mr Henry James, director general of the NAPF; Mr Myles White, head of pensions and social services, General and Municipal Workers Union; and Mr Charles Sligh, chairman of the accounting standards committee's working party on pension funds and accounts.

There are three categories of award. First, the formal pension report and accounts for funds with over 500 members. This includes a breakdown of investments, details of the assets and liabilities of the fund, an actuarial report and possibly a separate valuation for the property portfolio.

The second category, perhaps of more interest to the millions of employees and pensioners, is the popular trustees report to members. Small funds with less than 500 members have a separate category of their own.

Few employees will want to wade through tons of figures, so the popular trustees report is probably the one that will be most widely read. The three Golden Pen judges chose the BICC Group Pension Fund as the 1982 winner in this category.

Along among all the winners or runners-up, the BICC report consists of four pages and is printed on glossy paper. Tabloid in format, it is generously illustrated and includes well-designed tables and a financial breakdown. It is also printed in big bold type — why do editors of house journals and the like always seem to think that the workers are short sighted?

The report's great virtue is that it manages the nearly impossible — explaining important points about the fund to the layperson without being confusing or boring. It also includes practical information: how to apply for early retirement pension, how the Government has relaxed the age restriction, and how to make additional voluntary contributions. There is a clear illustrated account of the money that came in and out of the fund and where it went, a review and breakdown of investments, and a short but clear actuaries' report.

There is an effort to humanize all that money. But I doubt if anyone at BICC will take the company up on its suggestion that they should visit the untidy pile of cigarette boxes in Shrewsbury ("this handsome building") that forms part of the fund's property portfolio.

Do members really relish this sort of thing — or indeed the little property pep talk delivered by the fund's property consultant on the back page? With his advice that quick decisions are important, as there are other potential buyers seeking good property, he would appear to be addressing the managers of the pension fund rather than its members.

Runner up in this category was the National Coal Board's effort, which the judges held to be a "model of exposition." They praised it for the way it summarizes retirement benefits and gives details of where members can get fuller explanatory leaflets.

In the formal category Tate & Lyle came top. It is the only report among the winners and runners up that compares the fund's latest annual performance against another performance measure. It gives a clear breakdown of the fund, a statement on investment policy and performance and (also rather rare) the phone numbers and names of the people who administer the scheme. Pension funds usually seem so faceless.

Debenhams were runners up in this category and the Reed Pension Trust (one of last year's winners) and the British Airways Pension Scheme were both commended.

Among the small funds (less than 500 members) the Reardon Smith report was the winner. Its 10 stapled pages are plain, austere even. Judging from that and the commendable report of the University of York Pension Fund (last year's winner in this category), brevity and simplicity are expected of the small funds.

The Reardon Smith effort packs in the detail, despite its size, but the University of York report strikes me as infinitely better looking. The way it uses simple clear illustrations to show the fund's investment and financial situation is much more effective than mere rows of figures.

John Whitmore

Margaret Drummond

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BELL'S
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Stock Exchange Prices

Lack of interest

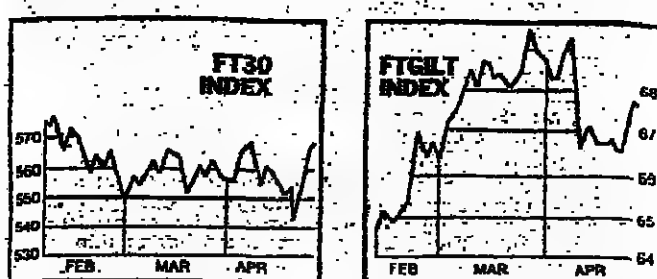
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 19. Dealings End, April 29. § Contango Day, April 30. Settlement Day, May 10.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

[illegible]

BUSINESS NEWS

Share prices falter



After their good run so far this week share prices ran into more resistance yesterday, and were not helped by cautious remarks from ICI on current year prospects. Up 2.4 points at 10 am, the FT index drifted for the rest of the day and closed with a net gain of 1.6 at 563.9, a rise of 18.3 points so far this week. Gilt turned lower in response to firmer money market rates and with investors reluctant to open fresh positions before the weekend.

British Aerospace deal

British Aerospace is to buy Sperry Gyroscope for £45m in cash. A down payment of £4.5 has been made and the balance is to be paid next month. Sperry, owned by the Sperry Corporation of the United States, was established in the UK in 1913 to make gyro compasses for the Royal Navy. It has recently designed and developed Britain's first laser gyro inertial navigation system.

Business Editor, Page 23

ICI hints at redundancies

Substantial redundancies in the plastics and petrochemicals division of ICI were strongly hinted at yesterday by Mr John Harvey-Jones, the new chairman. Addressing his first annual meeting of shareholders, Mr Harvey-Jones said economic recovery had been delayed, and the future remained uncertain. Radical rationalization, including plant closures, was essential, but the company was not getting out of Britain.

Jobs to go, page 22

Rise in EEC steel output

European Community steel production rose to 31.5m tonnes in the first three months of the year, almost 3 per cent up on a year earlier. Output in the United States, which has begun moves to restrict imports of steel from Europe, fell by 25 per cent in the first quarter to 20.5m tonnes, according to figures from the International Iron and Steel Institute.

SE opposition

Sir Nicholas Goodison, Stock Exchange chairman, has criticized proposals on indexation of capital gains tax. The measures, seeking to remove the inflation on the value of capital assets, are in the Finance Bill which entered the committee stage yesterday.

MARKET SUMMARY

Spotlight on oil

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 569.0, up 1.6
FT 100 57.97, down 0.10
All-Share 325.99, up 1.48
Bargains 15,210

Political uncertainty continues to keep trade quiet in all sections of the stock market but there is an underlying 'firm tone' which has helped the FT index to a 1.6 rise to 569.0, an advance of 18.3 on this account of 18.3.

Gloomy comments on trading from Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman, clipped 4p from ICI while other blue chips ended narrowly mixed with Glaxo unchanged at 631p after the recent dramatic rise.

The spotlight was firmly on the oil sector after the Opec decision to cut production and there were double figure gains for leaders with BP up 12p at 310p, Shell 14p better at 402p, Lamsco up 17p at 339p and Ultramar climbed 10p to 16p.

Trade in the gilt market remained thin, with upward pressure on short-term money rates leaving falls of 2% across the board.

Greycoat Estates proved it is a force to be reckoned with in the property world with its £36m take-over last year of City Offices, and substantial buying pushed the shares up 3p to 142p — a rise so far this week of 12p — with a decision due soon from the Environment Department on its Coln Street development proposals.

COMMODITIES

Heating oil futures hit their highest prices for three months in record trading volume. Material for delivery this month gained \$5 a tonne to \$284.50, and the May contract was \$10 higher at \$299. The volume was 5,115 lots.

Dealers said that three factors contributed to the upsurge. One was stronger prices and activity in New York, where gas oil stocks are low. Political tension, notably in the Middle East, also raised prices. But the most influential factor was the news that Opec output had fallen to 15.8m barrels a day.

Rotterdam spot oil prices responded to the same influences, gas oil for immediate delivery putting on about \$7 a tonne to \$285-287.

Elsewhere on the London Commodity Exchange, cocoa prices fell sharply. Dealers' belief that some west African producers would sell cocoa pushed material for delivery this month down by £26 to £891 a tonne, while May cocoa lost £21 to £919.

TODAY

Board meetings: Interim: S. Casel, Lowland Investment Co, TV South-West, Female, Aulobona and Sons, Amalgamated Metal Corp, Bentalls, Futura Holdings, F. Miller (Textiles), Richardson Westgarth, Savoy Hotel, Solicitors Law Stationery Society, Scottish Northern Investment Trust.

Economic statistics: Retail price index (March), tax and price index (March), new vehicle registrations (March), sales and orders in engineering (January).

Producers still gloomy over world prices

£800m N Sea oil project abandoned

Shell and Esso, announced yesterday that they have abandoned plans to develop the Tern oil field in the North Sea, an £800m project that could have provided job security for hundreds of workers in Scotland's ailing offshore construction industry.

The consortium also said that it had given up any hope of developing the Elder field, another sizable oil discovery in the same part of the North Sea, in the foreseeable future.

Shell, the lead partner, blamed three factors for its decision not to proceed beyond the initial conceptual engineering phase of the Tern development. They were:

- The technical risks involved in the project.
- The deteriorating outlook for world oil prices.
- What it called "the onerous tax regime" in the North Sea.

Tern due on stream in 1987 lies in 550 feet of water about 100 miles north-east of the Shetlands and contains an estimated 140 million barrels of reserves. The Elder discovery has an estimated 120 million barrels of reserves.

The decision not to proceed with either development underlines how dramatically the economics of North Sea oil development have changed in the last year, and was a bitter blow to the offshore platform construction industry where nearly 2,000 redundancies have been announced in the last three weeks as a result of a drying up of major North Sea oil development orders.

Although Shell and Esso have warned publicly in the last few weeks that the Government's refusal to cut North Sea oil taxes would hit future development plans, tax is not the most important reason behind yesterday's announcement. There was a high cost development even by North Sea standards, with a complex geological structure that would have required a large number of



water and gas injection wells to boost oil flows. Officials at the Department of Energy emphasized yesterday that Tern had been postponed rather than necessarily abandoned for all time, and noted that the field's economics had improved by the oil tax changes in the last Budget.

The fact remains however, that fields of over 100 million barrels of reserves in the North Sea were until recently considered to be generally economically viable. Most were discoveries in the North Sea will be smaller than 150 million barrels, so the Tern decision which implies that virtually every find will be marginal from now on could make a turning point in the history of the North Sea.

One casualty of the Tern decision will be Foster Wheeler, the engineering construction company which was in line to win a £40m contract to provide project services for the development. The move means that the partnership, which operates six of Britain's 20 producing North Sea oil fields, now has no further developments of its own in the pipeline.

Saudi output cut further

By Our Energy Correspondent

Saudi Arabia is continuing to produce less oil than its official production ceiling in its efforts to prevent the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries having to cut oil prices, Shaikh Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, said yesterday.

Last month Saudi Arabia, the largest single Opec producer, put out 6.7 million barrels a day against its ceiling of 7.5 million said Shaikh Yamani, and this month output is again falling short, by an undisclosed amount, of the new and lower ceiling of 7 million barrels.

Meanwhile, Dr Mana Said Oteiba, president of Opec, confirmed that the organization would give financial aid to Nigeria to help overcome the disastrous slump in its oil sales as a result of the overpricing of its oil.

In Nigeria, Mr Shehu Shagari, the country's president, has withdrawn his Budget bill only hours after it was passed by parliament and will submit a new proposal more in line with depleted oil revenues.

But at the same time Nigeria is raising \$240m on the Euro market to finance a railway between Umuahia and Enugu. The credit will be for eight years and will carry interest of 7 1/2 per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate.

Nigeria is regarded as the weak link in Opec attempts to underpin oil prices. Its oil production is thought to be between 800,000 and 900,000 barrels a day, well below its Opec quota of 1.3 million barrels.

And some oil companies have refused to buy Nigerian oil at the official price of \$35.50 a barrel when they can obtain similar quality crude from the North Sea at \$31.

The West German Export Trade Federation yesterday warned companies not to increase trade with Nigeria, whose "demand for foreign goods is larger than its supply ability", the federation said.

Kuwait's finance minister has warned that the country faces a traumatic financial squeeze unless it can boost oil exports or trim its hefty public spending programme. Agency reports quoted the finance minister as saying that Kuwait would "go bankrupt" in four years if present trends continued.

Ex-broker on theft charges

Mr Gerald Charles Bowyer-Tagg, former senior partner in the crashed stockbroking firm Norman Collins, is due to appear in court on remand in July facing two charges of theft and one of falsifying accounts. The total sum involved is £50,000.

He was arrested at Heathrow Airport on Monday by City of London Fraud Squad officers, appeared in court on Tuesday and was remanded on £25,000 bail until July 20.

Until February last year Mr Bowyer-Tagg was the finance and administration partner of the two-man stockbroking firm Norman Collins. But on February 3 the firm was "hammered" by the Stock Exchange Closing after advertising that it could not meet its bargains. Debts were estimated at around £1m.

Mr Bowyer-Tagg was declared a defaulter and expelled from the Exchange where he had been a member since 1974. The hammering was the first for five years. But four months later it was followed by the collapse of Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar, into whose Government Securities dealings the Fraud Squad had already been investigating. Hedderwick went down owing £6m.

PSBR well within forecast for year

By John Whitmore

The public sector borrowing requirement in the financial year just ended undercuts the Government's original estimate of £10,600m by £2,000m.

Moreover, the undershoot in the underlying PSBR was still greater. When the Treasury published separate figures for the central government borrowing requirement earlier this month, it estimated that the impact of last year's civil servants' dispute on tax revenue had been to raise the GCBR in 1981-82 by about £750m.

On the face of it, the PSBR out-turn could suggest that the Government's fiscal policy last year was tighter than it perhaps needed to be, or at least was intended to be.

However, the PSBR is

always difficult to forecast with precision since it is the difference between two very big numbers — for expenditure and revenue — which run at about £100,000m. Only small divergences from forecast in either of these figures can produce a relatively large change in the residual borrowing requirement. Indeed, on the basis of past performance the average margin of error is put at up to £5,000m in either direction.

The PSBR can also be difficult to track during the course of the year because of the lag with which the Treasury sees figures for local authorities and public corporations. For instance, the Treasury was still forecasting a 1981-82 PSBR of about £10,600m last month.

Business Editor, Page 23

GUS bid 'a rescue'

By Our Financial Staff

Great Universal Stores, the mail order giant which is bidding £237m for the Stores (Bradford), is preparing to argue before the Office of Fair Trading that the bid should not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Both hope to convince the OFT that GUS's agreed offer of one of its shares and 166p cash for every six Empire shares, is more of a rescue of the smallest of the mail order companies than an attempt to increase its domination of a market sector.

The OFT is expected to put its recommendation to the Secretary of State for Trade in about a month.

Fears that a reference was virtually automatic kept Empire's share price 10p below GUS's 114p bid price since 1974. The hammering was the first for five years. But four months later it was followed by the collapse of Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar, into whose Government Securities dealings the Fraud Squad had already been investigating. Hedderwick went down owing £6m.

Counter-bidders could be put off by GUS's announcement that it has contracts with a wide number of institutions to buy 15 per cent of Empire immediately the bid was announced.

Government inaction under attack

Women's pensions 'still unfair'

By Lorna Bourke

Successive governments have ignored inequalities between men and women in pension schemes, Baroness Lockwood, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said yesterday.

In a speech highly critical of governments' attitudes, she said: "If a fraction of the energy and sophistication which is now deployed in developing more and more ingenious arguments in favour of the status-quo were to be deployed in working out the details of the solutions — whose outlines are clear to all concerned — I believe there is no reason why the problem could not be solved within the lifetime of this Parliament."

Baroness Lockwood called on the National Association of Pension Funds — at its annual conference at Bourne-mouth — to sponsor a "state



Baroness Lockwood: Britain "out of line"

of the art" report on occupational pension schemes in respect of the treatment of men and women members.

"I am sure that such a report would be very widely welcomed — not least of all by my commission."

The commission had already embarked upon a pilot study, results of which would be published as soon as available. Initial impressions were that most men and women took equal retirement ages seriously, and that many would be prepared to make a substantial financial contribution in order to bring about such equality.

Emphasising the lack of government action and the moves being forced upon us by changes taking place within the EEC, she said, "I cannot see how Britain can avoid finding herself once again out of line with the rest of the community unless we seriously address ourselves to this issue in the near future."

Fresh hopes of buyer for De Lorean car plant

By Robert Rodwell

The Government backed De Lorean sports car plant in West Belfast appeared on the brink of being salvaged yesterday.

For the past six weeks the 1,500 employees at the company, which is in Receiver-ship, have been working a one-day week producing 35 to 40 cars which have been stockpiled.

Yesterday, as the workforce expected the shutters to be pulled down on the venture, union officials met joint Receivers, Sir Kenneth Cork and Mr Paul Segwell, and were told that the legal action in New York between the Bank of America and Mr John De Lorean's New York-based marketing company, which had been blocking sales of more than 2,000 sports cars stockpiled in the United States, had been settled out of court.

The Bank is to release those cars on which it has a charge, in respect of loans granted to Mr De Lorean's company and these will now be forwarded to retail dealers.

In addition, it is expected that 1,000 cars will be bought or leased almost immediately by the coast-to-coast Budget-Rent-A-Car chain.

Sir Kenneth said that within the last few days proposals for financing further production and for the acquisition of the Belfast factory had been received from Mr De Lorean. These provided the basis for an agreement and were being studied and while discussions



Sir Kenneth: did not know backer's identity

continue jobs at the Belfast plant will be safeguarded.

He admitted that he did not know the identity of Mr De Lorean's new backer but said that his lawyers were in negotiation with those oper-

ating for the unnamed financier.

If a firm agreement resulted, Sir Kenneth said, his impression was that the new backer, rather than Mr De Lorean, would be very much in charge of both the American and Northern Ireland companies.

Meanwhile, production is to continue at least until the end of May. The Belfast company has itself concluded the sale of 200 cars which have been stockpiled at the city's docks.

The revenue from this sale has given the Belfast operation scope for a few more weeks above and beyond the £5m provided by the Northern Ireland Office for the Receivers as interim finance when the company collapsed in February.

It is understood that the destination of these cars is the Middle East — the first market outside the United States where the stainless steel sports car has been sold. Fifty were shipped from Belfast a few days ago bound for Kuwait and Dubai.

Sales to the Middle East can be started immediately as cars with United States certification are acceptable there.

The marketing of the presently left-hand drive car in Continental Europe cannot begin until some minor re-engineering to meet European standards has been done, while no right-hand drive model for the United Kingdom and other markets has yet been developed.

Poles want new terms on debts

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Western banks will have to agree to delay interest as well as capital repayments on Poland's debts if agreement is to be reached on a 1982 rescheduling, it was indicated in London yesterday.

Mr Zygmunt Krolak, commercial counsellor at the Polish Embassy, said it would be necessary for commercial banks to adopt a similar line to Western governments which agreed to reschedule 90 per cent of the interest due in 1981 as part of the 1981 rescheduling terms.

Poland is due to repay \$10,000m (about £5,650m) in 1982 of which \$3,000m is interest. Mr Krolak said Poland's ability to repay part of the interest would depend on whether new credit was available so that Poland could buy spare parts and raw materials to restore its economy.

Although production was 10 per cent down in the first quarter of 1982, compared with the 1981 first quarter, Mr Krolak said the rate of decline had slowed and output and exports in the mining industry had improved. However, increases in foreign exchange earnings from these sources would have to be diverted to buying spares and materials for industry.

The target for hard currency earnings in 1982 is \$6,000m and a positive balance of trade with western economies is expected for the first time since the early seventies.

Mr Krolak pointed to extensive moves towards reform of the economy including new pricing levels, the introduction of market forces in the economy and

moves towards the decentralization of planning.

Western bankers are unlikely to take kindly to the idea of rescheduling interest payments. Talks have not yet begun on a 1982 rescheduling because of the refusal of governments to negotiate through the Paris Club until military rule had been relaxed in Poland.

Polish officials are expected to meet bankers in London next month to tie up the technical details of the 1981 rescheduling but it is not clear whether 1982 rescheduling will also be discussed.

Poland is already seriously behind on the interest payments originally due in 1982 and bankers believe there could be serious consequences if payments on the rescheduled amounts are not met.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 1981

- *Pre-tax profit up 53% from £2.16 million to £3.3 million
- *Higher volumes in most areas of our business, particularly for fruit juice
- *Total dividend increased by 25% to 5p per share net
- *£3 million invested in new buildings, plant and vehicles, including completion of the Kidlington juice factory
- *Total borrowings reduced by over £1 million

Four Years' Progress

2000	1981	1980	1979	1978
Turnover	55,894	49,479	41,638	29,119
Profit before taxation	3,300	2,156	2,279	1,490
Profit after taxation	2,448	2,480	1,731	921
Dividend —				
per share	5.0p	4.0p	3.0p	2.1p
times covered	4.8	5.1	5.9	4.5
Earnings per share	20.13p	21.95p	17.21p	11.27p

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31st December 1981 may be obtained from The Secretary, Clifford's Dairies plc, Western Rd, Brackley, Berkshire RG12 1QJ.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

A question of timing for Associated Dairies

Waiting for expansion to pay off

In 1973 Associated Dairies Group (ADG) went into furniture and carpets in search of higher margins than in its cornerstone market of groceries only to find itself in the worst recession for years in the home furnishings market (Derek Harris writes).

There are two questions as the group nears the end of its trading year early next month. One, will results from furniture and carpets be as bad as in the first half when trading profits plunged nearly 80 per cent?

Two, how far is the furnishing division ready to gain from any economic upturn?

The fact that the group is now ready to talk more freely about what has been going on in Allied Carpets and what is now the Wades chain of furniture stores is probably encouraging in itself. Mr Roy Bousfield, ADG's managing director and vice-chairman, agrees that the question the group has to face is whether it took over the two concerns, including the Williams furnishing stores chain that went with Allied, at the right time. "We do not feel we moved at the wrong time," he added.

Sales have been hit — 10 per cent off at Allied Carpets which as Britain's largest specialist carpet retailer has been the most exposed to recessionary effects on trade — but both Allied and Wades are in profit, according to Mr Bousfield. Wades, which has almost doubled in size with conversions of 37 old down-market Williams stores, has had sales increases of 6 per cent.

With 72 outlets Wades now has increased purchasing power, able to buy at keener prices. Inflation in furniture prices has been well below the Retail Price Index rate anyway so by simply pegging



Noel Stockdale, chairman of Associated Dairies

prices in the Wades outlets gross margins have benefited.

An extensive refurbishing programme, £12m at Allied Carpets over three years as the chain has been taken slightly up-market, and £3m at Wades over 18 months, is now shelved.

That puts the furnishing division ready in the new financial year, to feed any extra trade straight to the bottom line. But of this current year's trade Mr John Elston, of stockbrokers James Capel, estimates there could be £1m profits apiece from Allied and Wades, modifying the decline year-on-year to 62 per cent.

The two Ukay furniture stores in London at Olympia and Bow are being retained even though a net profit is not being looked for by Mr Bousfield. Mr Elston estimates a £300,000 loss compared with £1.5m the previous year.

Although in both furniture and carpets customers during the worst of the recession may have been trading a far down the

market as possible where they were buying at all, there are good arguments especially on margins for the current market positioning of both Allied and Wades. Mr Bousfield believes that easing on the mortgage front and a construction upturn could begin to show in furnishing trade within two of three months.

He believes Allied can reclaim its sales losses — it has not shed any of its 10 per cent market share — and that the Wades turnover can be geared up further.

Sales of carpets at Wades, accounting for 12 per cent of the selling area, are up by 90 per cent and bedding sales have also increased.

The potential of Allied and Wades, with new store openings still to come, seems undoubted once the economic situation improves. That with some uncertainty still about the ability of the Asda stores operation to regain its old momentum, nevertheless could mean still unexciting results

in the first half of the next financial year.

The Elston forecast is that up to £59m pre-tax this year (7.8p earnings per share and a multiple of 17.2) could rise in 1982-83 some 10 per cent to £65m (earnings per share 8.6p and a multiple of 15.6).

Divided views on Ferranti

High technology defence equipment such as the weapons control systems designed for the Royal Navy by the electronics group Ferranti may be used in earnest in the South Atlantic. But it is difficult to say whether such anticipation has been behind this week's steady rise in the Ferranti share price as several factors may be at play (Drew Johnston writes).

Ferranti is strongly fancied as a candidate for takeover. Its expertise and growth potential in defence and electronics make it an attractive prospect. Plessey, Racal-Decca and GEC all being spoken of as possible suitors. An overseas bid is probably ruled out on security grounds.

Opinion is divided on what to do with Ferranti shares. Stockbrokers Hoare Govett are bearish on the grounds that the institutions which took Ferranti stock from the National Enterprise Board in 1980 will be free to dispose of their holdings from July.

They argue that the institutional sale will result in significant price weakness. They also think there will be no bid for the company before July.

But other brokers say that the steady improvements in the internal operation could lead to a substantial profits rise over the next couple of years. One analyst said he would be loath to suggest the share price is currently too high, at its present level — 687p per share.

For the year just ended, there seems to be agreement that pre-tax profits will be around £23m,

against last year's £18m. Analysts expect an increase in the payout and forecast a prospective dividend yield of 1.6 per cent.

Next year, pre-tax profits are expected to touch £28m. The company is currently trading at a contract for the design and supply of weapons systems for the Brazilian navy. The deal was agreed last autumn, but could now be in jeopardy if the Organisation of American States sides with Argentina and acts to ban imports from the United Kingdom.

Confidence in Ferranti's strongly improved efficiency is underpinned to some extent by its relatively high dependence on United Kingdom public sector business.

Earlier this month the share price was given a slight boost from the formal signing of a £49m contract for the design and supply of weapons systems for the Brazilian navy. The deal was agreed last autumn, but could now be in jeopardy if the Organisation of American States sides with Argentina and acts to ban imports from the United Kingdom.

Cash call at Steel Bros

Steel Brothers, as widely tipped, called on shareholders yesterday to raise £4.5m to finance both past and future expansion, (Margaret Pagano writes).

The rights issue is at 170p a share on a one-for-four basis. The group's shares jumped 25p to 230p on the news — well above the year's low of 205p.

The cash call comes to repay some of the money borrowed from Steel's bankers over the last year to support its many expansion projects in the United States and Canada. Last year saw the group invest £2.8m in the part cost of building a new lime plant in Montana; it bought and improved lime operations at Tacoma, Washington for \$5.5m (£3.2m); doubled capacity of its Pavilion Lake for \$5.7m, and constructed a bulk lime terminal in Canada. About £3.5m from the issue will

be repaid and the balance will go to reduce borrowings, which, at £26m at the year end, represent a 7 per cent gearing ratio to shareholders' funds.

Steel, which earns 90 per cent of its profits overseas, continues its two-pronged policy of expansion — into developing its rock and construction business in the United States and diversifying the foodstuffs interest into the Far East and other markets.

Signs of improved demand for both its main businesses came with full year figures for the year to December. Pre-tax profits are up 41 per cent to £7.8m on turnover higher by £10m at £110.6m. At the trading level profits were £15.4m against £10.4m and a profit breakdown shows foodstuffs (covering wholesaling and trading, canteen dinners and airlight packed meals) up to £4.1m against £2.9m. Rock and construction profits rose to £2.3m against £1.9m.

Better trading in most markets lies behind the increase and Steel is now looking to develop its Spinney foodstuffs concern, so far mainly concentrated in the Middle East, into the Far East. Airlight packed meals in the United Kingdom out of Gatwick are only a small operation — the group lost the Laker contract — but expansion here is also planned.

A final dividend of 9.2p gross is being paid, making a total of 13.7p compared with 11.4p last time.

A recent revaluation of the group's land and buildings, excluding limestone and gravel land, disclosed an unrealized surplus of £5.4m which has been taken into accounts. Results have also benefited from lower sterling rates on profits earned overseas. But interest charges, up at £4.4m against £2.4m, were an additional burden.

Mr Anthony De Boer, chairman, says the group's other activities made small, but useful, profits despite difficult trading. Signs are, he adds, the recession may have reached its lowest point

US airline warned by auditor over debts

Oakland, California, April 22. — World Airways, one of several United States airlines hard hit by recession, has been warned by its auditors that it may be unable to continue in business because of a cash shortage.

But the former leading charter flight operator, which joined scheduled carriers when President Carter deregulated the domestic airline business in 1978, said yesterday it was optimistic it could reschedule its debt payments.

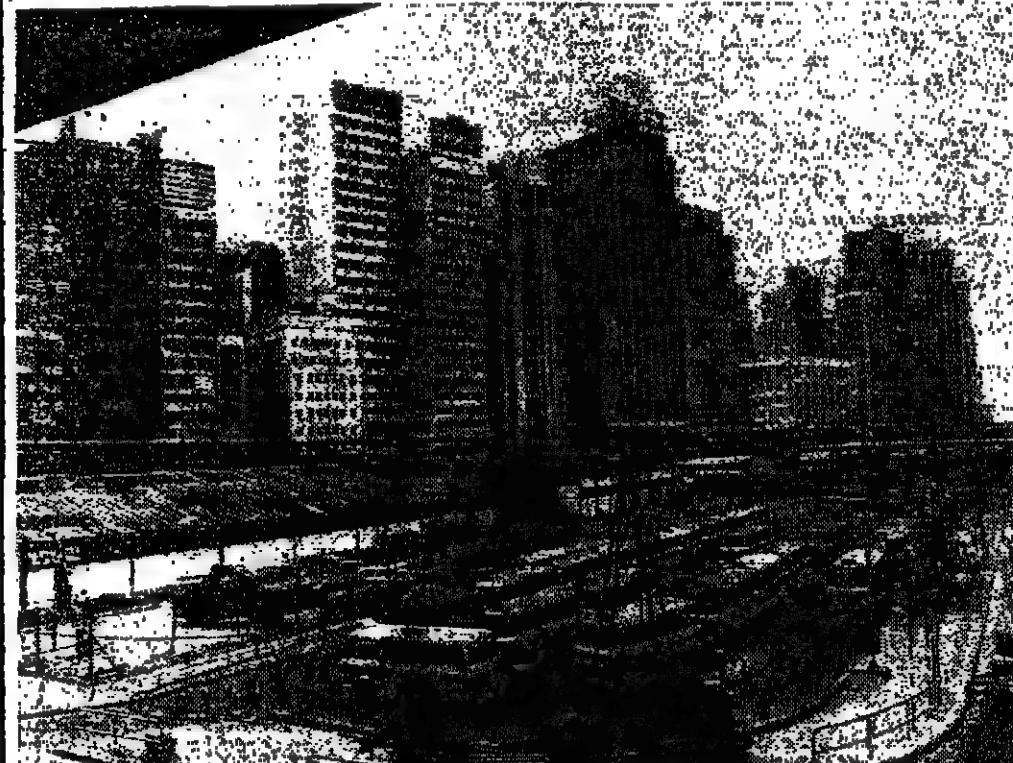
A report by auditors Peat Marwick, Mitchell said that a greater-than-expected 1981 loss of \$20.2m (£11.3m) could prevent the airline from continuing its operations because of its needs to repay debts.

World Airways, which operates transatlantic routes, had been anticipating its 1981 losses would be \$12m to \$15m after a 1980 deficit of \$28m.

It blamed the dismal 1981 results largely on interest expenses of over \$50m, but said that talks with its creditors in extending payments falling due over the next 14 months were progressing satisfactorily.

Other leading American airlines are also in difficulty. Texas-based Braniff is struggling to overcome losses totalling \$310m over the past three years and is trying to restructure debts of more than \$730m.

American Airlines, the country's third largest commercial carrier, has just reported pre-tax losses of \$75.4m in the first quarter of this year compared with a profit last year of \$4.1m. Reuters.



Work has begun on site (above) for Hongkong's unified Stock Exchange, which will replace the existing buildings, after Hongkong Land's \$432m acquisition of the land in Causeway Road Central. Under the terms of the tender by which the group bought the 144,200 sq ft site it must provide a bus station covered by a two-storey podium to house the Stock Exchange, but above this offices can be built to a maximum height of 600 feet.

Sizable job cuts loom at ICI

By Rupert Morris

The broadest hint yet that substantial redundancies are on the way at Imperial Chemical Industries was given yesterday by Mr John Harvey-Jones, the company's new chairman.

Radical rationalization "on a European scale" was necessary in plastics and petrochemicals, Mr Harvey-Jones told ICI's annual meeting in London. It was his first direct contact with shareholders since he succeeded Sir Maurice Hodgson as chairman at the beginning of the month.

He saw the problem as similar to that which once existed in the fibres sector. The halving of the fibres workforce from 18,000 to 9,000 in the past 10 years was masterminded by Mr Harvey-Jones.

Prior to the granting of these licences documents have only been deposited and collected by the members of a particular exchange.

The licence is general not requiring individual applications and is effective immediately.

Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for industry, who published the licence yesterday said: "These measures will both stimulate the Post Office to greater efficiency, through introducing an element of competition into the postal monopoly, and will benefit the customer by giving him the choice of service in areas where this is desirable."



John Harvey-Jones: pursuit of efficiency.

A poor start to the year meant "economic recovery had been delayed," he said. "Hence we cannot afford to let up in our pursuit of further efficiency and operating economies."

He said it might take longer than the company would like to return every sector to profitability, and stressed that there was no question of leaving Britain.

Cost reductions, technology advances, and export breakthroughs had, however, combined to produce "a realistic sense of confidence."

"One expression of this confidence is the partially restored dividend. It is our firm intention to improve the return to shareholders as soon as earnings permit."

Improvements of up to 40 per cent in energy efficiency at new plants were another significant advance, he said.

"Any general caution I have," he said, "is not about ICI's ability, but about the economic climate and its uncertainties."

Anxiety about job losses has, however, prompted the seven trade unions at ICI to form a national joint body to discuss the company's strategy with directors. The unions remain extremely concerned that ICI is directing most of its energies to overseas expansion at the expense of the British workforce.

Document exchange centres licensed

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Over 100 document exchange centres in the United Kingdom have formally been awarded licences by the Department of Industry to deliver mail to each other.

Prior to the granting of these licences documents have only been deposited and collected by the members of a particular exchange.

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Document exchanges have grown in popularity over the last five years and have been largely used by lawyers and banks for the exchange of confidential paperwork. The Post Office has its own service based in the Stock Exchange called Exchange-post.

Most of the exchanges have been transmitting documents to each other since the passage of the British Telecommunications Act last July.

The licence completes the programme for liberalizing the postal system. Other measures include the issuing of a general licence which enables charities to deliver Christmas cards and the suspension of the Post Office monopoly on time sensitive material provided that the charge is greater than £1 a letter.

FIRST LOCAL ICI CENTRE OPENS

ICI has opened at Reading the first of its planned computer centres. Seven more are scheduled for London, Croydon, Bristol, Manchester, Wakefield, Birmingham and Edinburgh, and others outside the United Kingdom will bring the total to over 40.

The centres will concentrate on making local businessmen aware of the benefits of computers by "taking the jargon and the mystique out of computers."

Sperry has announced details of its computer-aided design (CAD) and manufacturing programs (CAM) for its computer systems.

The system UNIS-CAD will speed up design of products with higher quality and lower cost, Sperry claims. It allows all aspects of design engineering and manufacturing to operate from a "bank in one computer."



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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

INTERNATIONAL



Inflation in US 'could fall to 3pc'

United States inflation could fall to 3 per cent by the end of this year from February's year on year consumer price rise of 7.7 per cent, Mr. Herve De Carmoy, the Midland Bank west and east European General Manager said in Paris.

He said with the fall in inflation, which would come partly as a result of the strength of the dollar, real United States interest rates would fall to between 5 and 7 per cent, compared with the present 8½ per cent with prime rates at 16½ per cent.

The fall in United States inflation and the continuing high rate of real interest rates would have a serious impact on European economies, he added.

SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Federal Banking Commission is investigating three banks that France and Italy have charged with involvement in the illegal flight of capital to Switzerland. The banks under investigation are: Banque Occidentale pour l'Industrie et le Commerce, Banque de la Suisse et du Gothard.

Switzerland's four biggest commercial banks yesterday cut their interest rates on time deposits by ¼ point. The fall is the seventh since March 1.

GUYANA

Guyana has announced the first oil find 60 miles south of Georgetown. A statement from the Ministry of Energy and Mines described the discovery as encouraging but added reserves must be assessed before any commercial development can be contemplated.

AUSTRALIA

Australia's consumer price index rose 35.1 in the first quarter, up 17 per cent from the last quarter of last year and 10.5 per cent from March last year.

HONGKONG

Union Carbide said it has sold its 49 per cent share in a Taiwan petrochemical venture, after seeking a buyer for more than a year. The United States company sold its 25 per cent share of Oriental Union Chemical to Central Investment Holding on January 18, according to Mr. B. Law, chairman of Union Carbide Eastern, a subsidiary.

JAPAN

Japan's gold imports surged last month to a record 55.7 tonnes, more than triple February's imports and nearly five times more than in March last year.

Advertising: an unstoppable boom?

Advertising expenditure on television and in the national press has increased rapidly in the first quarter of the year and industry economists are forecasting an advertising boom which could turn 1983 into the best year yet for the industry.

Independent Television's net advertising revenue rose by 25.7 per cent in the first three months of this year compared with the same period last year. Figures for press expenditure are harder to come by since, unlike ITV, Fleet Street does not publish its monthly revenue figures.

However, predictions from the Advertising Association indicate the newspaper increase even higher than that of television, at 28 per cent.

Much of the newspaper boom, according to the Advertising Association's director of research, Mr. Mike Waterson, is accounted for by the increase in colour supplement revenue, with two new titles, the *Sunday Express Magazine* and the *News of the World's Sunday* giving the sector a boost.

The Advertising Association's forecast, published quarterly, is normally accurate and its prediction for television revenue in the first three months of this year was close to target.

"We hold the view that the volume of advertising expenditure in general, and television in particular, is still basically governed by economic factors such as the level of consumers' expenditure and company profitability", says Mr. Waterson.

"If this assumption is correct, the next two years should be good ones for most sectors of expenditure, unless the Government continues to follow the monetarist flag with much greater fervour than seen before".

The boom in television revenue began in the third quarter last year, which saw the ITV contractors' revenue grow by 25 per cent on the same period the previous year.

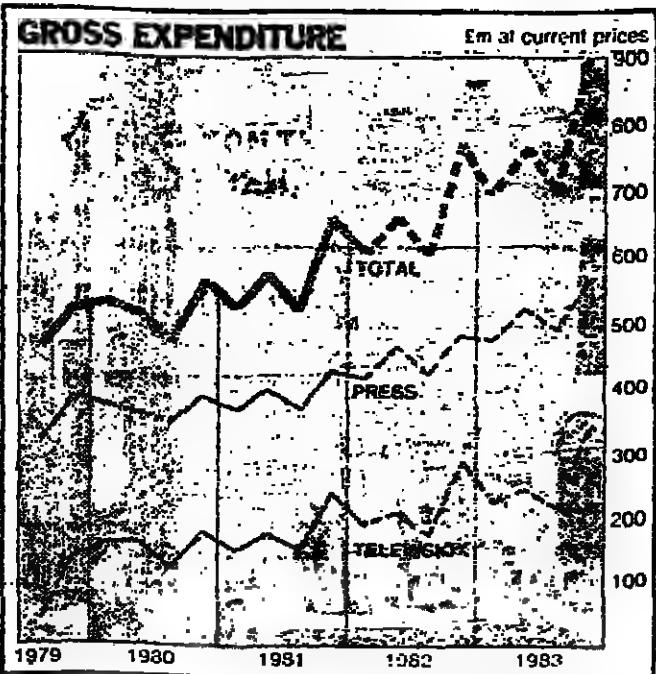
The following quarter, which takes in the pre-Christmas rush and is ITV's best time of the year, saw an increase of 31 per cent.

Other media, meanwhile, were still showing little or no increase and it is only in the last three months that the press has begun to experience the advertising revival.

"The most likely explanation for the sudden growth of TV advertising is that the turning point for the profitability of consumer goods industries occurred in the middle of 1981, well before any change in industrial and intermediate goods markets", says Mr. Waterson.

"There is evidence to show that television expenditure tends to recover from recessionary conditions rather more rapidly than other sectors of expenditure and this could well be due to the fact that heavy TV advertisers tend to be concentrated in sectors of the economy which have recovered from the recession rather early in the trade cycle."

Other factors have fuelled the television spending boom,



Because the amount of television advertising per hour is restricted by Government (unlike that in newspapers, which can simply print more pages) the cost of airtime, and hence revenue, is directly linked to demand. Recently the TV contractors have been very successful in increasing this demand.

While the major TV boom has happened already and its revenue will more or less settle down now on a steadily rising graph over the next two years, national news-

papers are set for a boost over the next six months says the Advertising Association, if not in classified.

Following its forecast of a 28 per cent increase for national newspapers (including colour supplements) in the past three months, it sees a 33 per cent rise in the current quarter, compared with the same term last year, and a 28 per cent rise in the following quarter.

Overall the Advertising Association forecasts a real

increase in advertising expenditure of five per cent in each of the next two years, which would bring total spending to over £3,000m — a record in real terms.

Some observers, however, are less optimistic than the Advertising Association. One reservation they have is that the new advertisers who have been attracted to television in recent years do not necessarily have the fundamental belief in the value of advertising for the success of their products that the traditional brand advertisers have.

The new advertisers, so the argument goes, such as retailers, motor and entertainment firms, are not believers in the long-term value of advertising but use it for tactical short-term benefits, rather than in strategic brand-building terms.

In other words, the current boom, built as it has been largely on the revenue of new types of advertiser, might not be as stable as it seems.

There is another argument which is linked to that. "Ironically, as economic conditions improve, we might find that firms aren't having to advertise so much", says Mike Chapman, vice-chairman of Ogilvy and Mather.

"One reason we have done so well recently is that firms have been having to compete very hard to survive, advertising heavily to get rid of surplus product."

Torin Douglas

Beaming in on supermarkets

TECHNOLOGY: LASERS

By Clive Cookson

Nearly three-quarters of the items checked out of Britain's supermarkets now bear a bar code, the parallel lines of varying width which a computer can scan with a laser to identify the product and its price.

That means the grocery trade is about to pass the magic point at which manufacturers are bar-coding enough goods to make laser scanning an attractive commercial proposition. Industry experts generally put the crucial proportion between 70 and 80 per cent of sales volume.

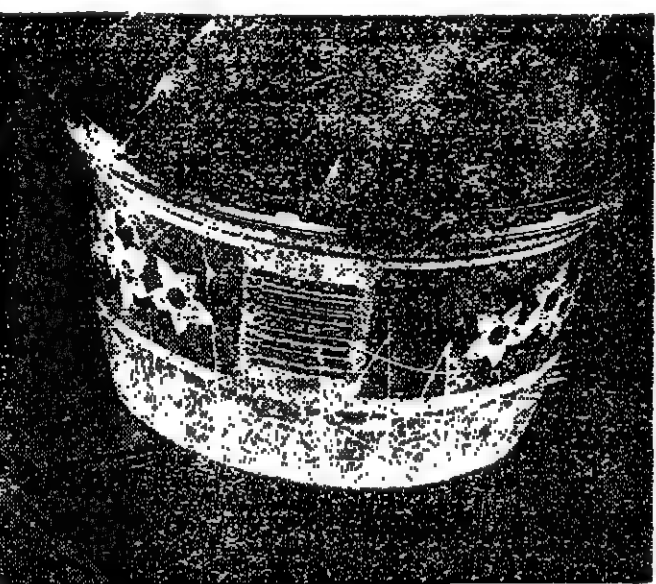
During the two and a half years since Keymarkets opened Britain's first scanning supermarket only 10 more have introduced systems, all on a trial basis. But the total will increase three-fold this year, led by Tesco which plans to install scanners by 15 supermarkets by the end of 1982.

Next year, after the trials are complete, the retail trade is likely to plunge into scanning on a far larger scale, and growth should continue at an exponential rate until the end of the decade. The market survey firm, A. C. Nielson, has

estimated that the number of scanning shops will pass 1,000 between 1985 and 1990. The Distributive Trade Economic Development Committee (EDC), in a report on new technology published this week, forecast that this mark would be reached nearer the beginning than the end of Neilson's four-year period. It points out that Spar, the voluntary group of independent small supermarkets, expects at least 1,000 of its members to be scanning by 1990.

It is clear from the EDC that, for most British shoppers, widespread laser scanning will be the first major manifestation of the electronic revolution in the distributive trades. Others, such as armchair shopping from home via data terminals and electronic funds transfer (the "cashless society") lie further into the future.

All scanners incorporate a low-power laser, which the check-out operator activates automatically by passing an item over a glass window on the counter. Within the machine, rapidly rotating mirrors or prisms break the



Laser beams criss-cross a margarine pot as it is pushed over an IBM 3687 scanner window at a supermarket check-out. Each line of light is the trace of an extremely fast moving spot.

laser light into a series of fast moving beams.

When a beam crosses the bar code, the machine detects the width and distribution of the lines, and its computer converts the pattern into the 13-digit number assigned to a particular product under an international convention. The number is instantly transmitted to an electronic price file which relays the product's price and description back to the register.

The information is shown on a display panel and simultaneously printed on the customer's till receipt with, for the first time, a brief description of purchases

rather than just a price list.

The data is even more useful to the supermarket, because it makes electronic stock control and re-ordering far more efficient. The Article Numbering Association (ANA), the trade body which administers and promotes bar-coding in Britain, has already formulated a set of standards for electronic communications between retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers.

The most visible benefit for supermarkets is that staff are relieved of the chore of marking the price on every item, so long as the price of

each product is clearly labelled on the shelf edge.

Curiously in the United States, where the scanning movement is about five years ahead of Britain and nearly 5,000 supermarkets are now involved, retailers are only just beginning to give up item price marking. They are meeting fierce resistance from consumer organisations claiming that shoppers need to see the price of everything in their trolley or basket as they go round the store. In the United Kingdom, the Article Numbering Association and supermarkets with trial systems have tried to consult consumer groups and there has been little opposition.

In the United States, the manpower has been at the check-out counter, where supermarkets traditionally operated with two employees: one to ring up prices and the other to put the customer's purchases into a bag. Scanning is so much faster than entering prices on a traditional cash register that one person can now do both operations.

Most of the scanners available in Europe are based on American technology, because of the United States' head start in supermarket scanning. IBM has taken an early lead in the embryonic British market, winning the majority of orders for trial systems. The company's latest 3687 scanner is believed to be the first commercial application of holography, the technique of using three-dimensional images.

Business Editor

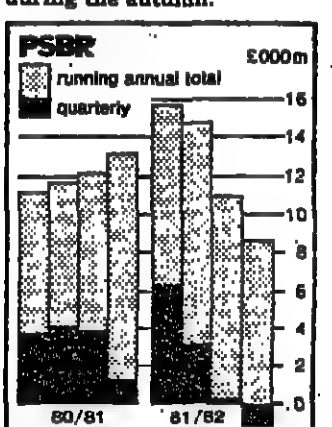
Was fiscal policy too tight?

A public sector borrowing requirement of £8,600m for the financial year just ended against an original estimate — only recently confirmed, moreover — of £10,600m is bound to be taken as penetrating ammunition by critics of Government policy. Indeed, when one allows for the adverse impact on Government revenue of the civil servants' dispute, the undershoot is larger still.

But in what senses does this add up to a suitable case for criticism? Most obviously, it is tempting to suggest that the Treasury got it wrong and the result has been that much of last year's tightening of the fiscal stance and raising of the tax burden was unnecessary. Yet the outcome is just about on periphery of the accepted norms for margin of error (based on past experience), was apparently not visible to the Treasury even a few weeks ago, and had far more to do with the financial behaviour of local authorities than central government.

But if one accepts the margin of error argument, together with that of the short-term invisibility of what goes on outside Whitehall, is that good enough? For a start, a £3,000m margin of error in either direction — total range £5,000m — is fairly critical in the context of a momentary policy that (or ought to be) trying to avoid over-funding yet fine-tune monetary growth within 4 per cent band worth about £3,500m.

The answer is that we probably have to live with the imperfections of an imprecise system and apply flexibility where it appears appropriate. Whether the PSBR will undershoot significantly this year remains to be seen. Certainly, some city analysts are expecting enough room for a little fiscal flexibility during the autumn.



Dunlop Optimism

In its first year divorced from Firell, Dunlop has slipped from £10m pre-tax profit to break-even as finance charges of £45m

have wiped out pre-interest profits. Net losses per share have deteriorated dramatically, from 11.3p to 29.4p, but these bald figures conceal the company's official optimism that the critical British tyre business is definitely recovering and could be in the black in 1982.

Total sales rose by 5 per cent last year to £1,456m, to which tyres contributed £338m against £743m in 1980. Despite losing £16m at the operating level in the United Kingdom, and another £2m elsewhere in EEC, tyres made a worldwide operating profit of £24m.

Hopes for the British market are based on higher shares of the original and replacement markets. Losses fell from £11m in the first half of 1981 to £5m in the second half and current trading is profitable.

Sizeable asset sales are unlikely this year, so the company will be dependent on its underlying trading. The British workforce has been slashed to 24,000 in five years as part of Dunlop's drive to higher productivity. Financing charges fell by £4m, and despite year-end gross borrowings being £35m higher at £363m, predominantly because of the cost of consolidating Dunlop France, net borrowings are down. But they are still to be avoided over 90 per cent of equity and Dunlop desperately need to maintain the recent progress in tyres and improve trading cash now.

BAe Buying Sperry

British Aerospace's £45m purchase of Sperry Gyroscopes effectively concentrates the British electronic weapons industry in the hands of five large groups — the others being GEC, Ferranti, Plessey and Racal — but the deal has attracted no objections from the Ministry of Defence.

Sperry Gyroscopes whose sales bounded from £38m in 1979 to £65m in the year to the end of March, will become the fifth division of BAe's Dynamics Group whose turnover last year was running at £453m. Sperry's pre-tax earnings of about £2.5m for its last year compare with the Dynamics Group's contribution of £33m to BAe's total trading profit for 1981 of £95m.

The sale will provide Sperry's parent, the United States with much needed cash to relieve its short-term debt burden, while BAe will gain from the injection of some more advanced technology particularly in the underwater weapons systems area where it has been keen to expand.

Points made by the Chairman, Michael H Caine

Booker McConnell's profit before tax in 1981 was 20% higher than in 1980. Encouraging increases have been achieved in Food Distribution and Agriculture, and action has been taken to eliminate losses in a number of the engineering businesses.

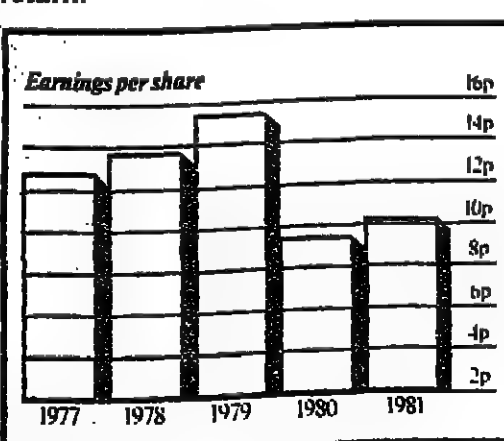
Divisional performance

The Food Distribution Division increased its profit by 42%. Net margins increased and these businesses are now on the way to producing an attractive return.

Agriculture had a healthy increase in profit. In the USA Arbor Acres had a highly profitable year although Nicholas Turkey was less successful. From its UK base Booker Agriculture International increased its profit. Each of these three businesses, forming the Ibex group, has a leading position in specialist markets which allows scope for continuing expansion.

In Engineering, Plenty returned to a satisfactory level of profit. SPP with higher sales also did well. Fletcher and Stewart and Fletcher Sutcliffe Wild each suffered from much lower sales. A number of the smaller businesses have been sold or rationalised.

Health Products Trading had a mixed result. UK profits from health foods and chemists' shops moved forward strongly but the North American businesses suffered losses due to development expenditure.



Summary of Results		1981	1980
		£m	£m
Turnover		933	834
Profit before tax attributable to Booker McConnell		15.3	12.8
Equity earnings		12.7	11.8
Earnings per share:		pence	pence
historical cost basis		10.2	9.5
current cost basis		5.4	3.9
Dividends per share		3.5	3.1

Keen Cast
CASH & CARRY

Budgen
SUPERMARKETS

ALLISON
STONEGROUND FLOUR

341
AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT

Plenty
EQUIPMENT FOR THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRIES

BOOKER LINE
SHIPPING

Halvini
WINE

Tia Maria
LIQUEUR

LAMBS
NEW BIRM

Booker McConnell
FOOD FOR SUCCESS
AND A GREAT DEAL MORE BESIDES

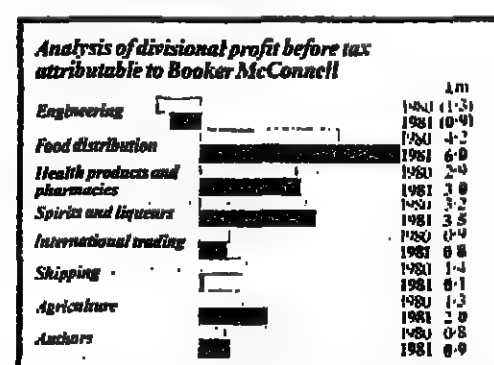
In Spirits and Liqueurs, sales volumes generally were lower although better margins secured a satisfactory profit.

In Shipping, Coe Metcalfe had great success whilst the Booker Line made a substantial loss, partly due to the seamen's strike.

The Authors' Division profit reflected Agatha Christie's continuing popularity.

Prospects for 1982

There is still much to do to restore earnings per share to the levels of 1978 and 1979.

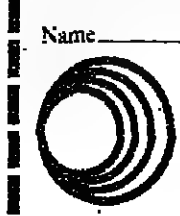


Food Distribution will increasingly benefit from the rationalisation of recent acquisitions. There are attractive growth points outside the traditional wholesale businesses — in fresh, frozen and specialist foods and in wine. A profit is expected in Engineering with contributions from all the businesses except Fletcher and Stewart.

In Health Products Trading there will continue to be high costs in planned marketing development in the USA and the launch of new products in the UK. Another increase is hoped for in Spirits and Liqueurs. In Shipping, the Booker Line's prospect remains uncertain. Ibex should again increase its profit.

In total the improvement in profit achieved in 1981 is expected to continue into 1982. The move to a higher level of profit is apparent in many of the businesses. The corner has been turned.

To: Booker McConnell PLC, Bucklersbury House, 83 Cannon Street, London EC4N 8EJ.
I would like to know more about Booker McConnell. Please send me a copy of your report and accounts.



Address

Booker McConnell PLC



Gold mining companies administered by Anglo American Corporation

All companies are incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

Orange Free State

Reports of the Directors for the quarter ended March 31, 1982

FREE STATE GEDULD

Free State Geduld Mines Limited

ISSUED CAPITAL: 10 440 000 shares of 50 cents each

OPERATING RESULTS

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Area mined—square metres 000	128	144	272
Tons milled 000	721	755	1 476
Production—kg	3 011	3 111	6 122
Cost—R/kg square metres mined	6 498	6 762	6 630
Cost—R/kg square metres milled	328.04	286.19	307.11
Cost—R/kg produced	82.73	86.25	84.46
R/kg produced	6 982	6 114	6 530

JOINT METALLURGICAL SCHEME

(See summary) Stines delivered

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Tons 000	628	657	1 285
Head grade	0.53	0.47	0.49
Gold—g/t	0.89	0.99	0.94
Antimony—g/t	1.02	1.02	1.02
Sulphur—per cent	—	—	—

PRICE RECEIVED ON SALES

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Gold—R/kg	11 727	13 257	12 707
Gold—\$/oz	387	403	395

FINANCIAL RESULTS

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Cost—Revenue	8 000	8 000	8 000
Cost—Expenses	11 727	13 257	12 707
Profit	387	403	395
Profit before taxation and State's share of profit	38 075	31 146	34 551
Provision for taxation and State's share of profit	4 878	18 340	23 350
Profit after taxation and State's share of profit	33 197	12 806	11 201

DIVIDEND

Appropriation for capital expenditure

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Capital expenditure	39 853	20 847	52 100
Tonnage milled and treated for President Brand Gold Mining Company Limited	—	—	30 000
Cost—Revenue	—	—	—
Cost—Expenses	—	—	—
Profit	—	—	—

DEVELOPMENT

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Advance metres	14 436	1 498	15 934
Channel width	37.8	27.63	32.71
Gold—g/t	0.83	0.93	0.88
Antimony—g/t	0.97	0.97	0.97
Sulphur—per cent	0.43	0.43	0.43

During the quarter 51 metres were developed on the Kimberley 'A' reef in the Nos. 2 and 4 shafts. There were no sampling results.

The development reported includes development by the company in the area under tribute from Free State Development and Investment Corporation Limited and Western Holdings Limited.

DIVIDEND

The interim dividend of 150 cents a share in respect of the year ending September 30 1982 was declared on April 23 1982 payable to members registered on May 14 1982 and will be paid on or about June 11 1982.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

In view of the current low gold price, some capital expenditure has been deferred and it is now estimated to total R15 000 000 (previously R17 000 000) for the year ending September 30 1982.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS

Orders placed and outstanding on capital contracts as at March 31 1982 totalled R9 589 000.

DAMAGE TO NOS. 1 AND 4 SHAFTS

The damage to the mine's Nos. 1 and 4 shafts and the associated workings resulting from the five seismic events which occurred on April 13 1982 has now been assessed. It is estimated that sufficient repair work will have been completed by the first week in May to enable both shafts to recommence operations. The shafts will be closed until the necessary repairs have been completed. It will then take about three weeks to get the mine back to full production.

As many as possible of the production items from the Nos. 1 and 4 shafts have been redeployed elsewhere on the mine. However, once Nos. 1 and 4 shafts are fully operational towards the end of May, production will be as arranged as to regain the gold production lost in the affected areas. Thus, by September 1982, despite an estimated shortfall of 70 000 tons milled, actual gold production from these high-grade shafts should be close to the original forecast for the year.

For and on behalf of the board

G. LANGTON, Directors
G. S. YOUNG, Directors

April 23 1982

WESTERN HOLDINGS

Western Holdings Limited

ISSUED CAPITAL: 14 334 378 shares of 50 cents each

OPERATING RESULTS

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Area mined—square metres 000	318	358	676
Tons milled 000	1 922	1 922	3 844
Production—kg	8 000	8 000	16 000
Cost—R/kg square metres mined	6 498	6 762	6 630
Cost—R/kg square metres milled	328.04	286.19	307.11
Cost—R/kg produced	82.73	86.25	84.46
R/kg produced	6 982	6 114	6 530

JOINT METALLURGICAL SCHEME

(See summary) Stines delivered

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Tons 000	628	657	1 285
Head grade	0.53	0.47	0.49
Gold—g/t	0.89	0.99	0.94
Antimony—g/t	1.02	1.02	1.02
Sulphur—per cent	—	—	—

PRICE RECEIVED ON SALES

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Gold—R/kg	11 727	13 257	12 707
Gold—\$/oz	387	403	395

FINANCIAL RESULTS

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Cost—Revenue	8 000	8 000	8 000
Cost—Expenses	11 727	13 257	12 707
Profit	387	403	395
Profit before taxation and State's share of profit	38 075	31 146	34 551
Provision for taxation and State's share of profit	4 878	18 340	23 350
Profit after taxation and State's share of profit	33 197	12 806	11 201

DIVIDEND

Appropriation for capital expenditure

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Capital expenditure	39 853	20 847	52 100
Tonnage milled and treated for President Brand Gold Mining Company Limited	—	—	30 000
Cost—Revenue	—	—	—
Cost—Expenses	—	—	—
Profit	—	—	—

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DEVELOPMENT

Advance metres

Channel width

Gold—g/t

Antimony—g/t

Sulphur—per cent

R/kg produced

R/kg produced

R/kg produced

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R/kg produced

PRESIDENT BRAND

President Brand Gold Mining Limited

ISSUED CAPITAL: 14 040 000 units of stock of 50 cents each

OPERATING RESULTS

	Quarter ended March 1982	Quarter ended Dec 1981	Six months ended March 1982
Area mined—square metres 000	148	150	298
Tons milled 000	1 077	1 077	2 154
Production—kg	4 722	4 722	9 444
Cost—R/kg square metres mined	6 498	6 762	6 630
Cost—R/kg square metres milled	328.04	286.19	307.11
Cost—R/kg produced	82.73	86.25	84.46
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Sir Derek Rayner

annual meeting. The board intends to propose that Mr. Mark be nominated as president of the company. Mr. L. Vernon will be chairman of the company in addition to his managing director. Mr. J. de la Motte has been appointed deputy chairman in addition to his directorship. Mr. J. de la Motte has been appointed deputy chairman in addition to his directorship. Mr. J. de la Motte has been appointed deputy chairman in addition to his directorship.

Mr. John Steele has been a lifetime member of the company. Mr. Steele has been a lifetime member of the company. Mr. Steele has been a lifetime member of the company. Mr. Steele has been a lifetime member of the company. Mr. Steele has been a lifetime member of the company.

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BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

LAPORTE

Pruning restores earnings

Last year's measures to cut out loss-makers and reduce the workforce have resulted in productivity and profit improvements for Laporte Industries, the specialty chemicals group.

During the year ending in January, pre-tax profits rose 10 per cent to £15.2m on sales up by £18m to £214.6m. This restores earnings closer to those made in 1980 at £16.9m before trading problems affected the domestic market.

Last year, the extraordinary debit was £11m which covered about £10m for redundancy and closure costs at the Stallingborough sulphate plant where 1,000 people lost their jobs. This time there is an extraordinary credit of £278,000, and earnings per share are back to a more respectable level at 10.78p against 5.49p.

The final dividend is being held at 5p, making a total of 10p, and the group's shares rose yesterday 3p to 145p.

Mr. Richard Ringwald, chairman, says the main factors behind the profit improvement was the continuing programme of rationalization in the United Kingdom and elimination of loss-making activities. Improvement in productivity was noticed in the second half. Profit earnings from association companies, the Interco companies which are jointly owned with the Belgian Solvay group, also rose to £8.5m against £8m last time. But much of these gains were balanced by exchange rate changes.

HESTAIR

Strong recovery

The strong recovery at the new interim stage continued in the second half at Hestair, the industrial group, with pre-tax profits rising 124 per cent to £1.64m in the year to January, and dividends to the year doubled to 2.94p with an unchanged 1.42p final.

While this level of profits is still not commensurate

with turnover, which was up from £58m to £64.22m, it was achieved in a generally hostile environment, Mr. David Hargreaves, chairman, said.

In the vehicles division there was a modest advance in profits from £2.13m to £2.4m, and much change in the current year with the level of overseas sales dependent on political stability in the Middle East is unlikely.

Losses in the farm machinery division were cut from £920,000 to £62,000 and the division is now trading profitably. There were also losses of £114,000 for the newly formed word processor bureaux but the SOS employment bureaux pushed losses to £873,000 before an interim dividend which had already been announced. The final dividend was passed.

At the year end, cash had risen from £158,000 to £87,757 and bank overdrafts had gone from just under £1m to £1.4m.

Mr. Wingo says in his annual statement that there is no evidence of recovery in trading activity although the group's financial position had benefited from closures and liquidity should increase from the sale of surplus property. "The considerable reorganization and restructuring that has taken place should ensure the company's long term prospects," he says.

AMALG ESTATES

Opportune offer

Amalgamated Estates, the loss-making property group, is offering shareholders an opportunity to invest in its Hotel Television Network enterprise.

Underwriting is now complete for subscription, restricted to Amalgamated shareholders, to 1m shares in HTN at 100p a share. After the offer, Amalgamated will hold 60 per cent of HTN, worth £1.8m at the issue price which is equivalent to 9.8p per Amalgamated share.

Details of the individual trading groups within the company emerged yesterday with the annual statement from Mr. Herbert G. Wingo, chairman. His shareholders include M. & G Investment Management with 35 per cent. For the 53 weeks

GEORGE SPENCER

Trading details

Spencer's fabric dyeing and finishing for Marks and Spencer produced high sales but no profit for the year. The company's sales within the knitwear and leisurewear group George Spencer last year. Selling thermal underwear, under licence from Beecham's produced below budget sales but some profit.

Details of the individual trading groups within the company emerged yesterday with the annual statement from Mr. Herbert G. Wingo, chairman. His shareholders include M. & G Investment Management with 35 per cent. For the 53 weeks

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

St Gobain said its 1981 operating profits were around £1,800m, excluding computers, or eight per cent below 1980. Including computers, operating profits were 38 per cent lower at £1,35m (£1,35m).

Investments in plant and machinery last year rose eight per cent to around £12,500m and total investments, including portfolio investments, were £12,700m.

In February the company gave an estimated group profit for 1981 of £14,200m, including its computer activities.

A spokesman said it is now releasing revised figures excluding those activities because the Government, which owns a majority of St Gobain, is preparing the computer activities of several state-owned firms. Therefore St Gobain has to prepare accounts excluding this sector.

The company said it will carry out an important industrial investment programme this year in all its activities other than the computer sector.

BORDEN expects higher earnings in the second quarter, Mr. Bernard Nentzow, executive vice-president and chief administrative officer, said after the annual meeting.

In last year's second quarter, Borden earned \$40.2m (£22.4m). Yesterday it reported first quarter earnings of \$34.8m (£21.1m) from 9,507m yen in 1980.

Sales grew 7.2 per cent to 1.216 trillion yen from the previous year's 1.133 trillion yen. Per-share net profit dipped to 34.75 yen from 38.49 yen.

CAPITAL MARKETS

GMAC Overseas Finance is issuing a \$100m (£57m) seven year Eurobond, lead manager Chemical Bank International said. The bond will carry a 16 per cent coupon and be priced at 98-1/4. Noncallable for five years. They can then be redeemed by the borrower at par in the last two years and are guaranteed by General Motors Finance.

The EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK will tap the Swiss capital market for \$1,000m (£22m) in a 10-year bond offering through April '90, according to Credit Suisse, lead manager. Terms of the issue have not been set. The Luxembourg-based bank is a frequent borrower in Switzerland.

Frankfurt, April 22
Credit Foncier de France is raising Dm100 (£23.9m) through a 10 year bullet Eurobond lead managed by Deutsche Bank. The bond, guaranteed by the French Republic, carries a coupon of 8-3/4 per cent and fixed issue price of 99-1/2.

The Union Carbide Eurobond has been increased to \$1,500m (£350m) from \$1,000m, lead manager Morgan Stanley International said yesterday. The bond, which carries a 14-3/4 per cent coupon, was priced at par.

Canadian Pacific is issuing a \$75m (£42.8m) ten year Eurobond, according to manager Orion Royal Bank. In a bought deal, the bonds will carry a coupon of 14-5/8 per cent and be priced at par.

HARRISON

Half measure

Harrison Cowley Group, the Bristol-based advertising agents and public relations company yesterday reported halved pre-tax profits for the 12 months to last December.

The board says there is little hope for significant improvement this year, but in 1983 a substantial return could be expected.

By then the full effects of losing the £4m Renault account last year would have been eliminated, and what the group says is a recent large number of new client accounts should begin to come through.

The loss of Renault, combined with the recession was a double blow. Pre-tax profits fell from £924,000 to £20,000 on sales down from £20.9m to £18m. But the group has maintained an unchanged total gross dividend of 5.5p with a 3.5p final.

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CHESTERFIELD

Profits jump

A full year's contribution from its developments at Rugby, Wembley and Heston shares, Chesterfield's profits rose to 30.4 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £4.31m in the year to December on turnover up from £5.55m to £7.33m.

Stated earnings per share rose from 8.22p to 10.43p, and final dividend rises from 5p to 6.03p making a total for the year of 10.29p against 8.57p.

Chesterfield shares responded with a 7p jump to 367p, wiping the discount of the latest estimate of assets amounting to 500p per share is in line with the sector average at 36 per cent.

Three modest office developments in London and a mixed commercial development at Woolwich could add to rental income this year.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN Bank 13%
Barclays 13%
BCCI 13%
Consolidated Crds 13%
C. Hoare & Co 13%
Lloyds Bank 13%
Midland Bank 13%
Nat Westminster 13%
TSB 13%
Williams & Glyn's 13%

* 7 day deposits on basis of £10,000 up to £50,000 at 11%
£50,000 and over 11 1/2%

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EP Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/80	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	OTC	%	Actual	P/R	Yield
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CUFs	129	-	10.0	7.8	-	-	-	-
75	62	Asprung Group	73	-	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0	-	-
51	33	Armstrong & Rhodes	44	-	4.3	9.6	3.7	8.3	-	-
205	187	Bardon Hill	200	+	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8	-	-
107	100	CCL 11% Corp Pref	107	-	15.7	14.7	-	-	-	-
104	61	Deborah Services	82	-	8.0	9.7	3.1	5.8	-	-
131	97	Frank Borell	128	+	8.4	5.0	11.5	23.7	-	-
83	39	Frederick Parker	75	-	8.4	8.5	3.8	7.3	-	-
78	46	George Blair	96	-	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	-	-
102	93	Ind Prof Castings	108	+	15.7	14.4	-	-	-	-
109	100	Isis Corp Pref	109	-	2.0	7.1	3.1	7.0	-	-
113	94	Jackson Group	113	-	8.7	7.7	8.2	10.4	-	-
130	108	James Burroughs	128	-	31.3	12.9	3.4	8.6	-	-
334	240	Robert Jenkins	242	-	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1	-	-
64	51	Scrums "A"	64	-	18.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	-	-
22	19	Tandley & Carlisle	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	10	Twinkl Ord	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
89	65	Twinkl 15% ULS	80	-	15.0	18.8	-	-	-	-
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	-	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	-	-
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	-	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2	-	-
283	212	W. S. Yeates	231	-	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.1	-	-

Prices now available on Front page 48146

London Brick resilient to recession

Jeremy Rowe CBE, Chairman

SALIENT FIGURES

	1981	1980
Turnover	£700	£700
Trading Profit	127,089	123,869
Net profit before Tax & Extraordinary Items	11,561	10,534
Profit available for distribution	11,154	10,742
Earnings per share	3.911	10.637
Dividend per share	11.35p	19.11p
	4.892p	4.362p

The following are extracts from the circulated Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Jeremy Rowe, CBE, for the year ended 31st December, 1981.

The Trading Year

Last year I said that our performance in 1980 demonstrated London Brick's ability to ride the recession. In 1981, in spite of a further drop in volume, the pre-tax profit at £11.54 million was slightly up on the previous year (£10.74 million). The achievement of what in the circumstances is a satisfactory result was only attained through extensive cutback and rationalisation in many areas of our operations. A threefold growth in the profit contribution from subsidiary companies helped to compensate for the lack of volume in brick sales and thereby contributed to the overall improvement in results.

The Company has therefore demonstrated, once again, its resilience and ability to maintain profits at a time of deep depression in its major markets.

Employees

It is decreasing to the Board that 2,100 employees have either left or are about to leave the employment of the Company. This no doubt reflects the experience of many leading British companies and will in our case undoubtedly bring substantial savings in cost. But this cannot mask the bewilderment and indignation of those affected by redundancy. The feeling of rejection is perhaps greater in a firm such as London Brick where nearly one in five of our workforce engaged in brick production have worked hard and loyally for the Company for over twenty-five years. This major slumping in earnings levels went right through the business from senior management to those on the shop floor.

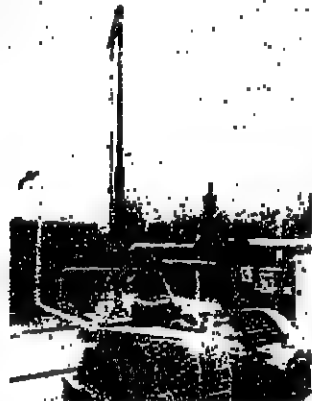
Marketing and Research

Last year I stated that 1980 might well prove a historically low point for new housebuilding with a level of starts lower than at any time in the fifty years. In the event, the final outcome for 1981 was marginally worse than in 1980. The figures, however, give at least some grounds for optimism because, whilst in the public sector there was a further substantial fall to a level where public sector housebuilding is now quite insignificant, there was some recovery - admittedly from a disastrously low level - in private housebuilding in the latter part of the year. This suggests that the housebuilding slump has at last bottomed out and is now due for some modest recovery.

In these circumstances, demand for bricks was lower than at any time since the war, not only because of the depressed level of housebuilding but because in the present economic climate there is a trend towards the construction of smaller houses for sale.

Against this background and in the face of price-cutting and strong competition, it is pleasing that flemish bricks slightly improved their share of the overall market, whilst sales of the simulated hand-made facing bricks from our Clock House Works showed an encouraging increase.

Landfill gas collection plant



London Brick Farms

In 1981 our farming subsidiary, London Brick Farms, which is steadily expanding its operation, achieved a fifty per cent increase in profit.

London Brick Landfill

Despite the recession, London Brick Landfill has continued to expand its operations and now makes a substantial contribution to the profits of the Group. The earnings result from the supply of vital services associated with the collection, treatment and disposal of industrial and domestic wastes. During 1981 the Company handled waste to fill a record total of 2.1 million cubic yards, an increase over the previous year of some 34 per cent.

Every bank can make sure your exports are paid for...



...eventually.

A commercial transaction is rarely straightforward when buyer and seller are on opposite sides of the globe. Documentary credits and bill collections should make things easier for importers and exporters rather than complicate this complex and vital area of international trade.

Standard Chartered Bank's presence in more than 1500 offices in over sixty countries allows us to advise our customers on trading practices, pin-point problem areas, suggest the best method of payment, provide status information on prospective partners - in short, offer the kind of service that has twice earned us

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement. As Britain's largest independent overseas bank Standard Chartered's wide geographical coverage gives flexibility in the provision of finance and direct branch-to-branch links to speed both the completion of transactions and the remittance of proceeds.

Our range of services both overseas and at over twenty British branches is exactly what you expect from any dynamic, progressive bank; the global experience which lies behind it is what makes us distinctively what we are.

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Standard Chartered Bank Limited, Head Office at Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB Telephone 01-621 7500. Assets exceed £14,000 million. BRISTOL 236 7442, BIRMINGHAM 236 7442, CARDIFF 236 7442, DUBLIN 236 7442, EDINBURGH 236 7442, GLASGOW 236 7442, LONDON 236 7442, MANCHESTER 236 7442, NEWCASTLE 236 7442, NOTTINGHAM 236 7442, OXFORD 236 7442, SHEFFIELD 236 7442, SOUTHAMPTON 236 7442, STOKES-ON-TRENT 236 7442.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

OWEN OWEN

Share price tumbles after losses

The share price of Owen Owen, the Liverpool-based department stores group, tumbled 8p to 170p yesterday after a pretax loss for the year to January of £220,000 was announced. Last year the group made a profit of £2.6m.

In spite of the loss a reduced final dividend of 2.85p gross is being paid, making a total payout of 4.28p gross. The total dividend last year amounted to 6p gross. Sales rose from £118.19m in last year's 53 weeks of trading, to £127.77m this time.

At the half year the company recorded pretax losses of £1.6m, which are attributed to the recession, high United States interest rates and a steel strike in Hamilton, Ontario where most of the group's Canadian stores are based.

Mr John Norman, chairman said Owen Owen, in common with most stores groups, made its profits in the second half, which includes the crucial Christmas period. In the event, second half profits of £1.3m were insufficient to offset the first half loss.

The company blamed about half the deterioration in the year's performance on the cost of a substantial development programme. In the last two years this programme has included the opening of four United Kingdom and Canadian stores, and the purchase of the minority interest in G W Robinson.

The rest of the profits decline was a result of the worldwide recession, the steel strike and poor weather at Christmas.

Sales at United Kingdom stores increased by 2.6 per cent to £76.5m, but profits fell to £428,000 from £1.5m. At the Canadian stores, the sales increase was 33.3 per cent to £34.9m, but last year's £573,000 profit turned around to losses of £820,000. Sale of Plumb Contracts, the group's contract furnishing subsidiary fell by 9.2 per cent to £7.5m. Profits fell from £487,000 to £172,000.

RUSH & TOMPKINS

Expansion plan

Rush & Tompkins has never had a rights issue. Since the two founding families brought their building and civil engineering companies to the Stock Market 11 years ago, their combined holding, has inhibited the board asking shareholders for extra cash.

Neither, says the board, are they thinking about having one now. But the group, which has returned to profits, is keen to expand its interest in the capital-intensive property investment and development business.

Last year it reduced total borrowings by around £2.5m to £14.5m and has just announced a revaluation of properties which last December were worth £38.7m on an open market basis. Net assets per share are now 337p.

Before interest last year property investment and development provided the bulk of the group's profits, and its building contract and civil engineering side is now seeking to obtain more private sector work to reduce its dependence on government spending.

Net rents received under the group's five-year review cycle jumped £200,000 to £1.85m, last year which is shown before the £1.7m pretax profit for the 12 months to the end of December was struck. They were earned on a turnover down from £92.6m to £84.2m.

The annual profit compares with a £785,000 loss last time, although when this was announced the group said it was a hiccup which related to losses of a 75 per cent-owned subsidiary in South Wales, now closed.

In the stock market, the shares gained 6p to 224p as the group announced a 13 per cent dividend increase to a gross 6.07p with a 3.28p final.

CHLORIDE

Fighting back

Chloride is not accepting the loss of its big BL battery contract to Lucas without a fight. It has asked the EEC Competition Directorate to investigate its claim that Lucas was guilty of employing unfair trading methods to win the business.

Both companies had been sharing the 500,000 batteries a year contract until a month ago when BL awarded the lot to Lucas, claiming the change was in line with its increasing use of single sourcing for major components to obtain keener prices.

Chloride complained Lucas's quotation was linked to a pricing policy covering a complete package of electrical equipment. Chloride said yesterday that it had filed a case with the competition directorate in Brussels.

The company had chosen to pursue the case in Europe because it was a multinational company dealing with major firms in many countries, spokesman said.

Lucas refused to comment last night. However, at the time of the original complaint it denied any claim that

there was a commercial link between battery prices and any of its other components.

CO-OP BANK

'Unfair' tax

The Co-operative Bank suffered a near-90 per cent windfall tax charge on its profits in 1981, Mr Peter Paxton, chairman, said yesterday. He described this tax as unfair and said: "It must never happen again."

According to figures produced by the bank, Lloyds Bank suffered a 15.2 per cent windfall charge on its profits. Barclays' charge was 16.6 per cent, National Westminster's was 19.6 per cent and Midland's was 28 per cent.

The Co-operative Bank's annual accounts show that it made a reduced operating profit of £4m last year, against £5.4m.

The group's pretax profit was down to £3.6m after exceptional charges of £377,000 — the cost of a \$30m bond issue. Pretax profit was £5.4m. The Government's windfall tax-swallowed £3.19m of the bank's below the line profits. There was also an extraordinary credit of £971,000 arising from sale of freehold property during the year. No dividend is being paid. Last year, a dividend of 5p net per share was paid.

Total assets rose from £686m in 1980 to £836m, and reserves grew to £41m from £39.1m.

The bank said the group's profit performance was affected by losses of £1.7m at FC Finance. Remedial incomes including the appointment of a new management team and the removal of the finance house's headquarters for Surrey to Manchester were taken during the year. The subsidiary has now undergone a virtual relaunch as First Co-operative Finance.

Despite the windfall profits tax the bank had expanded its number of accounts and its range of services, Mr Paxton said.

Profits up 124% Dividend Doubled

Results to 31.1.82

	1982 £'000	1981 £'000
Turnover	64,221	58,998
Profit	1,642	733
Earnings	1,481	655
Earnings per share	8.1p	3.6p
Dividends per share	2.0p	1.0p
Net tangible assets per share	69p	63p



Hestair plc

Special Vehicles, Farm Equipment, Consumer Products, Employment Bureau, Word Processors, Property Development.

For a copy of the accounts write to Hestair plc, 10 Castle Hill, Windsor, Surrey SL4 1PD; or phone Windsor 54945.

LATEST RESULTS

Company	Sales £m	Profit £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pts Date	Year's total
Chesfield Props. (F)	7,335.55	4,313.33	10.438(22)	4.25(3.5)	8/7	7.25(6)
Dunlop (F)	1,456(1.388)	0.910(0.9)	29.44(1.3)	—	—	3.8(3.8)
Harrison Cowley (F)	1,820.9	0.520(0.2)	4.9(10.5)	2.4(2.4)	—	2(1)
Hestair (F)	64,221(59)	1,642(73)	4.3(1.9)	1(1)	1/7	2(1)
Laporte (F)	214.9(196.8)	15,211(1.8)	10,785(48)	3.53(3)	14/6	7(7)
Thomas Marshall (F)	12,118(1)	1,880(84)	1,811(2)	1.81(2)	—	2.82(7.7)
Owen Owen (F)	127,771(118.1)	0.22(2.5)	6.25(25.63)	2(3.25)	1/7	3(4.25)
Rush & Tompkins (F)	84,232(59)	1,707(94)	12,348(64)	2.75(2.5)	—	—
Samuel Pross (F)	—	1,531(1.1)	1,531(2)	—	30/8	—
Spencer Gears (F)	3,9(3.1)	0.190(0.54)	0.85(3)	0.30(25)	—	—
Scottish Mortgage (F)	—	6,186(23)	5,33(5.44)	2.8(2)	—	5.3(5.3)
Steel Bros. (F)	110.5(100.7)	7,85(58)	—	8.8(5.9)	2/7	8(8)
Wm & Plastic (F)	2,57(2.5)	0.310(0.37)	5.87(5.84)	1.21(2)	—	2.07(1.8)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pension per share. Shareholders in business have dividends shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Pts are shown price and earnings are in pence. —=Loss.

Welkom Gold Mining Company Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Interim Report — 1982

Financial Results

The following are the unaudited results of the company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Free State Seaplass Gold Mining Company Limited, for the six months ended March 31 1982. These results relate to the operations conducted by the company and the subsidiary as investment holding companies, their respective mining undertakings and assets having been sold to Western Holdings Limited, as going concerns, with effect from July 1 1981.

No comparative figures are given in respect of the corresponding six month period ended in 1981, as the operations then conducted were of a mining nature and therefore not comparable.

	Six months 31.3.1982
Investment income	14 135
Less: Sundry expenditure	95
Profit before taxation	14 040
Taxation	—
Profit after taxation	14 040
Retained profit brought forward	83
Profit available for distribution	14 103
Deduct:	
Dividend — Interim	13 808
Retained profit	295
Earnings per share — cents	88.4
Dividends per share — cents	52.6
Number of shares in issue	28 900 000

The final dividend (No. 49) of 90 cents a share in respect of the year ended September 30 1981 was declared on October 22 1981 payable to members registered on November 6 1981 and was paid on December 11 1981.

Subsidiary Company

At March 31 1982, the company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Free State Seaplass Gold Mining Company Limited, had net assets comprising 3 653 000 shares in Western Holdings Limited, at a book value of R39 717 000, and net current assets of R309 000.

Listed Investment

The group's listed investments are:

	At 31.3.1982
R000	
Market value	300 872
Book value	84 829
Appreciation	236 043

Copies of the quarterly report of Western Holdings Limited which gives details of that company's operations are available on request from the offices of the transfer secretaries.

For and on behalf of the board

G. Langford
E. Pavitt Directors

DECLARATION OF INTERIM DIVIDEND NO. 50

On April 22 1982 dividend No. 50 of 52.6 cents a share was declared in South African currency, payable to members registered in the books of the company at the close of business on May 14 1982.

The transfer registers and registers of members will be closed from May 15 to May 28 1982, both days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on or about June 10 1982. Registered members paid from the United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom currency equivalent on May 17 1982; of the rand value of their dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such members may, however, elect to be paid in South African currency, provided that the request is received at the offices of the transfer secretaries in Johannesburg or in the United Kingdom on or before May 14 1982.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax is 15 per cent.

The dividend is payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head and London offices of the company and also at the offices of the company's transfer secretaries in Johannesburg and the United Kingdom.

By order of the board

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED
Secretaries
per C. R. Bull
Divisional Secretary

Transfer Secretaries
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited
62 Marshall Street
Johannesburg 2001
(P.O. Box 6106)
Marshalltown 2107

Charter Consolidated P.L.C.
P.O. Box 102 Charter House
Park Street Ashford
Kent TN24 6EQ

Head Office
44 Main Street
Johannesburg 2001
(P.O. Box 6106)
Marshalltown 2107
London Office
40 Holborn Viaduct
London EC1P 1AJ
Johannesburg
April 23 1982

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade copper was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

ALUMINIUM: Higher grade aluminium was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

NICKEL: Higher grade nickel was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

LEAD: Higher grade lead was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

ZINC: Higher grade zinc was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

SOYABEANMEAL: Higher grade soyabeanmeal was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

GRAIN: Higher grade grain was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

WHEAT: Higher grade wheat was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

BARLEY: Higher grade barley was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

RYE: Higher grade rye was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

WHEAT: Higher grade wheat was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

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WHEAT: Higher grade wheat was steady. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00. Cash, 2064.50—65.00; three months, 2064.50—65.00; six months, 2064.50—65.00.

Exact Circuits, which makes high technology printed circuit boards for the electronics industry, is to build a 27,000 square foot factory adjoining its premises in Selkirk, in the Scottish borders.

"We are installing modern sophisticated plant and machinery to cater for the requirements of the future complex fine line plated-through and multi-layer boards," Mr David Thomas, general manager, said.

STATISTICS

CONSUMER SPENDING
The first estimated figures for consumer expenditure seasonally adjusted at constant 1975 prices, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday.

	1979	1980	1981	1982
1st Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
2nd Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
3rd Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
4th Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
1st Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
2nd Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
3rd Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8
4th Qtr	71.8	71.8	71.8	71.8

*Preliminary estimate

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

to be held on Wednesday 19th May, 1982, at 10.30 a.m. in the "Nederlands Congresgebouw", 10 Churchplein, The Hague, The Netherlands.

AGENDA:

1. Annual Report for 1981.
2. Finalization of the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account together with the Notes thereto for 1981 and declaration of the dividend for 1981.
3. Appointment of two members of the Board of Management.
4. Appointment of two members of the Supervisory Board.
5. Proposal to amend the Articles of Association and to authorize the Board of Management — in accordance with the provisions in Article 124, Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code — to make any changes considered necessary by the Minister of Justice.
6. Designation of the Board of Management as referred to in Article 4 in the proposed amendments to the Articles of Association as the competent body to issue shares.
7. Designation of the Board of Management as referred to in Article 4 in the proposed amendments to the Articles of Association as the competent body to suspend pre-emptive rights when issuing shares.
8. Remuneration of members of the Supervisory Board.

The documents referred to under items 1, 2 and 5 are available for inspection and may be obtained by shareholders free of charge at the Company's office, 30 Carel van Bylandtlaan, The Hague, and at the head office of N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, London.

The nominations for the appointments referred to under items 3 and 4 are available for inspection at the Company's office, Mr. R.M. Hart and Mr. J.M.H. van Engstshoven are listed first on the nominations for appointment as members of the Board of Management, and Mr. G.J.F. Stijntjes and Mr. J. Kastel are listed second, respectively. Mr. D. de Bruyne and Mr. E. von Kuening are listed first on the nominations for appointment as members of the Supervisory Board, and Mr. J.P. Fortuin and Mr. S.H. Kamminga are listed second, respectively.

In accordance with Article 40 of the Articles of Association a resolution providing for amendment of the Articles of Association may be passed during the General Meeting of Shareholders by an ordinary majority of votes, irrespective of the proportion of the issued capital which is represented thereat.



N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandsche Petroleum Maatschappij
(Royal Dutch)
Established at The Hague, The Netherlands

REGISTRATION:

A. Holders of share certificates to bearer may attend and address the meeting and exercise voting rights if their share certificates, or evidence that their certificates are held in open custody by De Nederlandsche Bank N.V., are deposited against receipt not later than 13th May, 1982, at the bank mentioned below, viz:

N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, London.

B. Holders of registered shares may attend and address the meeting and exercise voting rights if they make known to the Company in writing not later than 13th May, 1982, their desire to do so:

With respect to shares of The Hague Registry: at the Company's office at The Hague; with respect to shares of Amsterdam Registry: at the office of Algemene Bank Nederland N.V., G.K.E., P.O. Box 2230, Breda, The Netherlands; with respect to shares of New York Registry: at the office of The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., New York.

C. Holders of certificates for "New York shares", which are depositary receipts issued pursuant to an agreement dated 10th September, 1918, under which The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. is successor depositary, may attend and address the meeting if their certificates for "New York shares" are deposited against receipt not later than 13th May, 1982, at Algemene Bank Nederland N.V., G.K.E., P.O. Box 2230, Breda, The Netherlands, or The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., New York.

What is stated above with respect to the availability for inspection or the possibility of obtaining the documents referred to under items 1, 2 and 5 of the agenda and the nominations for appointments likewise applies to holders of certificates for "New York shares".

POWERS OF ATTORNEY:

Shareholders and holders of certificates for "New York shares" who wish to have themselves represented at the meeting by a proxy must not only comply with what is stated above under A and C respectively, but also deposit a written power of attorney not later than 14th May, 1982, at the Company's office, 30 Carel van Bylandtlaan, The Hague, or at the head office of N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, London.

If desired, forms which as from today are obtainable free of charge at the Company's office and the head office of the above-mentioned bank may be used for this purpose.

The Hague, 23rd April, 1982

The Supervisory Board

Why Villa's success may be soured



All too familiar scenes: a night of joy for thousands of English supporters is marred

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The football authorities of Europe, not to mention England, have a problem. Eighteen months ago a few lions purporting to be West Ham United supporters were involved in a riotous night at the Bernabeu stadium in Madrid. UEFA, in their wisdom, eventually ordered the second round to be staged in a deserted Upton Park.

West Ham were forced to pay the price, amounting to about £40,000 in lost revenue, for the behaviour of thoughtless thugs beyond their control. It was discovered that those who had caused the violence did not belong to the club's official travelling party.

In Brussels on Wednesday night, crowd trouble involving English supporters marred Aston Villa's achievement in reaching the European Cup final after holding Anderlecht to a goalless draw.

There were openly on sale and the two rival factions were not segregated. Trouble was brewing well before one particular idiot considered opening the flood of play after the referee's whistle and caused the match to be halted.

UEFA's observer at the match refused to comment, preferring to enclose his reaction within his official report, but he is known to be sympathetic to Villa's cause. Yet if justice, however twisted it may be, is allowed to peer through all this ugliness the reigning European champions should at least be fined, as West Ham originally were. The sum, £7,700, was later lifted on appeal.

Ban English clubs

Haas Bangerter, the secretary of UEFA, said yesterday that English clubs should be banned from all European competitions. Ted Croker, the FA secretary, said he did not believe that would happen but admitted: "We must be getting very close to it."

Villa may know their fate next week. UEFA's disciplinary commission have a meeting on Thursday and René Eberle, a UEFA spokesman said yesterday that the crowd trouble in Brussels was discussed. Mr. Eberle declined to speculate on what sanctions might be taken against Villa, but he said that in the history of UEFA competitions no club had ever been barred from playing in a final.

One alternative could be to stage the final behind closed doors, but that would be as illogical as throwing Villa out of the competition.

The deepest sadness is that a few irresponsible hooligans have spoiled a dark cloud across Villa's shining achievement and in particular on the moment of glory of Tony Barton, their manager, who would be as illogical as throwing Villa out of the competition.

Mr Barton's enthusiasm was as effervescent as the champagne bubbles that surfaced on the stadium lights. 17 days into his managerial career he is on the verge of claiming the club's highest honour.

For all Villa's triumphs so far,

Woodcock and Coppell out of England squad

Tony Woodcock has been withdrawn from the England squad for Tuesday's international against Wales by FC Cologne, who have a rearranged league fixture. Steve Coppell, of Manchester United has damaged knee ligaments and is also out of the party.

Ray Wilkins, the United captain who also has a knee injury, may recover in time to play at Brighton tomorrow, a match Coppell misses. Mickey Thomas, the former Tottenham winger, misses the match because of a club suspension. Brighton may recall Gordon Smith.

Birmingham City have withdrawn Byron Stevenson from the Welsh squad, because they need the European trophy they won three years ago. They are, after all, staging the final on May 12 against Standard Liege in their own stadium.

Stevenson's departure is a blow to the Welsh squad, but it is a necessary one. The Welsh manager, Stuart Pearce, has decided to replace Stevenson with a player who is not a member of the England squad.

The two-legged UEFA Cup final will now, as expected, be a purely West German affair. Hamburg qualified easily enough against the Yugoslavs who dismissed Dundee United, but Kaiserslautern went down to Göteborg, of Sweden.

Road to quick success

By Paul Newman

A club who were formed less than nine years ago will step up from local Sunday League football at the end of the season and join the Southern League.

South London's Southampton are one of 10 clubs who have been elected to the Southern League, which will return next season to its old format of a single division. Their name comes from the shipping company to which they are attached.

At present Road Sea play on a shared pitch, but during the summer they will move to a new ground they bought three years ago at Marchwood, on the outskirts of Southampton. More than £150,000 has been spent on a ground, dressing rooms, floodlights and other facilities.

Road Sea's remarkable success story began 11 years ago with the formation of the company of the same name. Peter Price, now the chairman and managing director, and two colleagues raised £345 and set themselves up as shipping and forwarding agents. Today they own a multi-million pound business which incorporates 10 different companies.

Mr Price, aged 43 and in his own words "sports mad", formed the club as a hobby. He has a group of friends and work colleagues and in the last eight years they have won almost everything within their grasp as a Sunday League team. In the time Mr Price has also managed the county team and for the last year he has also been manager of the Hampshire Town in the Southern League.

The nine other new members of the Southern League will be Forest Green Rovers, Bridgwater Town, Wilton, and two others. The new members will be added to the existing clubs in the league.

Mr Price, who is a former footballer, has a keen interest in the game. He has been a member of the Hampshire Football Association since 1971 and has been a member of the Hampshire Football Association since 1971.

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Garrido blazes home with a brilliant round of 67

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent, Madrid, April 22



Mason: composed round

Antonio Garrido, of Spain, brought his form as well as his golf clubs with him from Tunisia this week. Having won the first event of the PGA European tour in a play-off with compatriot, Manuel Calero, he varied up first round of 67 to secure a lead of one stroke over Carl Mason, of Britain, on the first day of the Madrid Open.

With an Italian, Bernardini Dasso, a Frenchman, Michel Tapia, an Irishman, John O'Leary, an Argentine, and an Argentine, Manuel Calero, he varied up first round of 67 to secure a lead of one stroke over Carl Mason, of Britain, on the first day of the Madrid Open.

Severiano Ballesteros, returning after a year's absence, with his fences mended with the PGA, is on 70 and Sandy Lyle, perhaps the main British hope, on 71, along with two other Ryder Cup players, Des Smyth and Sam Torrance. Manuel Piner, the holder, could coast to a sense out of his putter and languish on 73.

Garrido, to begin with, seemed anything but a possible assassin in the paddock here. He was on another glorious day when he played the first six holes in 19.

Two long putts, of 15 yards and 10 yards on the seventh and eighth respectively, put him in good luck. Although a bunker caused him a shot at the next, he blazed home with four birdies in the last seven holes. He

Motor racing

From John Blunden, Imola, April 22

Grand Prix weathers boycott

Although there was an air of uneasiness in the paddock here this afternoon, with only a handful of racing teams present, there seems little doubt that the Grand Prix will go ahead on Sunday regardless of how many teams from the British-based Formula One Constructors Association (FOCA) are absent.

On the eve of tomorrow's first official Formula One race, the Renault, Alfa Romeo, Toleman, and the Williams teams are in the pits. They were expected to be joined shortly by the British Arrows team as well as by Ferrari and Oella.

FOCA's decision to boycott Sunday's race — they wanted it postponed until July 3 — follows last Monday's decision by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) to disqualify the winner of the Brazilian Grand Prix, Emerson Fittipaldi, for placing Williams.

The disqualification was a result of the fact that the Williams team had placed Fittipaldi in a car which was not entered in the race. The FIA has now decided to postpone the race until July 3.

FOCA's request for a postponement of Sunday's race was to "give us time to investigate the legal consequences of the decision and to ensure that the race is run in accordance with the rules of the FIA."

This is a reference to the FIA's ruling that the Williams team had placed Fittipaldi in a car which was not entered in the race. The FIA has now decided to postpone the race until July 3.

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Grand Prix weathers boycott

Although there was an air of uneasiness in the paddock here this afternoon, with only a handful of racing teams present, there seems little doubt that the Grand Prix will go ahead on Sunday regardless of how many teams from the British-based Formula One Constructors Association (FOCA) are absent.

On the eve of tomorrow's first official Formula One race, the Renault, Alfa Romeo, Toleman, and the Williams teams are in the pits. They were expected to be joined shortly by the British Arrows team as well as by Ferrari and Oella.

FOCA's decision to boycott Sunday's race — they wanted it postponed until July 3 — follows last Monday's decision by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) to disqualify the winner of the Brazilian Grand Prix, Emerson Fittipaldi, for placing Williams.

The disqualification was a result of the fact that the Williams team had placed Fittipaldi in a car which was not entered in the race. The FIA has now decided to postpone the race until July 3.

FOCA's request for a postponement of Sunday's race was to "give us time to investigate the legal consequences of the decision and to ensure that the race is run in accordance with the rules of the FIA."

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seek to emulate Weiskopf's methods and it is the upright position of the American at the address that has brought more consistency to Mason.

Savitsky caused the 19th green (his 18th), full of admiration for his distinguished playing partner. "Sevy's awesome to play with, almost too aggressive today," Savitsky said. He was smiling happily with his form.

He saw too much of the sand for his own satisfaction but on another day one could well see a writer of 10 to 12 ft putting going home instead of sliding past as they did today. The man's character is through even when an odd imperfection creeps surreptitiously into his play.

FIRST ROUND SCORES: 67: A Garrido (Spain), 68: C Mason (GB), 69: A Dasso (Spain), 70: J Piner (Spain), 71: J O'Leary (Ireland), 72: S Lyle (GB), 73: M Calero (Spain), 74: J Tapia (Spain), 75: B Dasso (Spain), 76: S Ballesteros (Spain), 77: M Calero (Spain), 78: J Tapia (Spain), 79: B Dasso (Spain), 80: S Ballesteros (Spain), 81: J Tapia (Spain), 82: M Calero (Spain), 83: J Tapia (Spain), 84: B Dasso (Spain), 85: S Ballesteros (Spain), 86: J Tapia (Spain), 87: M Calero (Spain), 88: J Tapia (Spain), 89: B Dasso (Spain), 90: S Ballesteros (Spain), 91: J Tapia (Spain), 92: M Calero (Spain), 93: J Tapia (Spain), 94: B Dasso (Spain), 95: S Ballesteros (Spain), 96: J Tapia (Spain), 97: M Calero (Spain), 98: J Tapia (Spain), 99: B Dasso (Spain), 100: S Ballesteros (Spain).

FOCA maintains that the tribunal is not empowered to change any of the rules of grand prix racing. This is a key issue because implicit in the Concorde Agreement, which was drawn up between FIFA and the participants after a legal marathon during the early spring of last year, was an all-party agreement that FIFA remain the ultimate authority and that its decisions will be respected.

Unfortunately, the root cause of so many of grand prix racing's ills is the farcical engine rules, which equate three-litre normally aspirated engines with one-and-a-half litre turbo-charged ones. There is no such equivalency of power output and those who have chosen the turbo route have been forced to make fundamental changes in the formula until January 1, 1985. So there is every prospect of another two-and-a-half litre turbo-charged race-trading and rule exploitation.

Scotland will have an interesting blend of old and new players in their team to meet Glasgow at the end of the month. Bill Miller, the American coach, the first foreigner in charge of the team, has chosen Seymour Bachman, from his own club, Murray International Metals for his first full cap. Bachman, a student at Aberdeen University, has been a member of the Scottish Universities last year, is a skillful guard and will add to the Scottish options in attack.

Miller has shown faith in Bill Miller, a former British captain who will be winning his 122nd Scottish cap.

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Spurs make symbolic arrival

By Nicholas Harling

Tottenham Hotspur's arrival back in England from Spain yesterday was symbolic of the lesson they had learned in their journey to land twice in thick fog at Luton, eventually succeeded at East Midlands Airport.

The players, depressed at their failure to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, then had to wait to be collected by coach and to be taken to the hotel. The time most commuters were leaving for work. The thought may not have escaped them that, after two valiant attempts to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, they had to wait to be collected by coach and to be taken to the hotel. The time most commuters were leaving for work. The thought may not have escaped them that, after two valiant attempts to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, they had to wait to be collected by coach and to be taken to the hotel. The time most commuters were leaving for work. The thought may not have escaped them that, after two valiant attempts to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, they had to wait to be collected by coach and to be taken to the hotel. The time most commuters were leaving for work. The thought may not have escaped them that, after two valiant attempts to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, they had to wait to be collected by coach and to be taken to the hotel. The time most commuters were leaving for work. The thought may not have escaped them that, after two valiant attempts to qualify for the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISARM FOR DEVELOPMENT

New House of Commons on Tuesday 27th April. Also a Ministerial Statement on the subject of the proposed development of the site of the old House of Commons. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

BIRTHS

BEAMISH - On Monday 22nd April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Beamish. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

COLLINGSWOOD - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Collingswood. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

DAKE - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Dake. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

HARROW - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Harrow. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

MACHIN - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Machin. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

MARCH - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret March. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

MICHAEL - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Michael. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

MURPHY - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Murphy. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

PARAVICINI - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Paravicini. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

WICKHAM - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Wickham. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

BIRTHDAYS

SARAH JANE - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Sarah Jane. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

SILVER WEDDING - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Silver Wedding. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

DEATHS

ATKIN - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Atkins. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

BRIDGE - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Bridge. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

CRICKET - On April 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Cricket. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

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YACHTS AND BOATS

PAK-EXCHANGE FERRY - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Pak-Exchange Ferry. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

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SPORT AND RECREATION

BRITISH GRAND PRINX SUNDAY, 18th JULY

Hosted by the British Grand Prinx, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret British Grand Prinx. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

BRITISH GRAND PRINX - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret British Grand Prinx. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

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UK HOLIDAYS

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS - On 21st April, at St. Mary's Hospital, a daughter, 3.5 lbs. Mrs. Margaret Scottish Highlands. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NUMBER OF SUFFERERS OF THIS DISEASE IS INCREASING

Diabetes

Join us to help support the British Diabetic Association. Details from C.A.O. 930 2931

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIMBLEDON TENNIS

Centre Court Standing Room Ballot

This year Standing Room for each of the last 4 days will be by advance booking only (for at least the first 2 grounds)

Standard Seats (including 4th entrance to grounds) cost £4 per person or 1 only application per person (for 1 or 2 persons)

Applications must be received by 20th April and must be accompanied by a cheque for £4 per person or 1 only application per person (for 1 or 2 persons)

Do not send request unless you have not heard by 10th April and you have not heard by 10th April

Entrance to the Ground on the last 4 days will be by request only - no overnight sleeping will be permitted

Application for Standing Room, All England Lawn Tennis Club, 10 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 0ED

Apply for 1 or 2 Standing Spaces on the Centre Court for each day only

Thursday, 1st July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Friday, 2nd July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Saturday, 3rd July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Sunday, 4th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Monday, 5th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Tuesday, 6th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Saturday, 10th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Sunday, 11th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Monday, 12th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Tuesday, 13th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Wednesday, 21st July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Thursday, 22nd July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Friday, 23rd July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Saturday, 24th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Sunday, 25th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Monday, 26th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Tuesday, 27th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Wednesday, 28th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Thursday, 29th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Friday, 30th July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Saturday, 31st July 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Sunday, 1st August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Thursday, 5th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Friday, 6th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Saturday, 7th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Thursday, 12th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Saturday, 14th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Sunday, 15th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Monday, 16th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Tuesday, 17th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Wednesday, 18th August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

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Paris car bomb kills woman and injures 63

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, April 22

A large time bomb exploded this morning in a car just off the Champs Elysees in Paris, killing a pregnant woman passer-by and injuring 63 others, 12 seriously. Parked vehicles, cafes and shops were damaged over a wide area.

Responsibility for the explosion was not claimed, but the explosion by the Government, a few hours after the explosion, of two diplomats of the Syrian Embassy seemed implicit recognition of the alleged role of Syrian secret service organizations in the affair.

Police do not, however, rule out the theory that this latest terrorist attack, the fourth serious one in France since the beginning of the year, was the work of Illich Sanchez Ramirez, alias "Carlos", the international terrorist. It is suggested that the explosion was timed to coincide with the trial today at the Paris Palace of Justice of two of his accomplices alleged by the police to be members of terrorist organizations.

The car, an orange Opel station wagon registered in Vienna, appears to have been hired. It disintegrated in the explosion. Fragments were found on the roof and in the courtyard of a tall apartment building nearby which houses the offices of the pro-Iraq weekly, *Al Watan Al Arabi*.

The weekly, in addition to its pro-Iraq sympathies, is known for its hostility to the regime of President Assad of Syria and recently published interviews with two prominent leaders of the opposition. But a member of the

editorial staff accused Syrian secret service agents of having staged the attack because the magazine was the first to publish articles allegedly incriminating them in the assassination last September in Beirut of M Louis Delamare, the French Ambassador to Lebanon. These revelations were also the subject of a documentary broadcast on French television last night.

Last November, a packet containing an explosive charge was discovered on the newspaper's premises, but it did not explode.

However, there are disturbing coincidences which point to "Carlos". The explosion took place near the spot where his two accomplices, M Bruno Breguet, 31, a Swiss, and Fraulein Magdalene Kopp, a German, were arrested in a car park last February.

Following their arrest, "Carlos" sent an ultimatum to the French government through the French Ambassador in the Hague warning it of reprisals if his two "friends" were not released within a month.

On April 15, on the day when the pair were first brought to trial, two officials of the French Embassy in Beirut were shot.

Today, the court sentenced Breguet and Kopp to five and four years imprisonment respectively and fined them each 10,000 francs (about £900).

Damascus. — Syria today gave two French diplomats 48 hours to leave the country and recalled General Youssef Shakkur, its ambassador to France, (AFP reports).

Mountbatten blames failure on 'evil' Jinnah

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, April 22

Mohammed Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan, was an evil "genius", "a bastard", "a lunatic", "a clot" according to Lord Mountbatten, who as Viceroy presided over the partition of British India in 1947.

In a stringent assessment of his adversary, Lord Mountbatten depicted Mr Jinnah as a man whose arrogance and obstinacy led him to reject a unified India and to accept second-best.

In Mr Jinnah's own words, "a moth-eaten Pakistan". Lord Mountbatten confessed he failed with Mr Jinnah. "He was the key to the whole thing. Dear old Gandhi held nothing at all in his hands. All this misery and trouble was caused by Jinnah and no one else, and he hasn't had one word said against him."

He was the evil genius in this whole thing. I have no worry about Jinnah being shown up for the bastard he was. He had closed his ears. Immovable and impervious... he was absolutely set on his cry of No — he was the de Gaulle of his day.

The Mountbatten assessment of the dedicated Mr Jinnah, and other leading figures at the time of Britain's withdrawal from the subcontinent, was made between 1971 and 1973 in interviews he gave to Dominique Lapiere and Larry Collins who were researching their book *Freedom at Midnight*, published seven years ago.

Transcripts of the interviews, as well as papers from the Mountbatten Archive, are the substance of another book, *Mountbatten and the Partition of India*, being published this week by Vikas, Delhi.

As the writers showed in their earlier book, Mr Jinnah was dying of tuberculosis and living on willpower, whisky and cigarettes during the negotiations. Lord Mountbatten was not aware of this, had he known, he might have acted differently in dealing with the threat of a partition which he thought ghastly and sheer madness.

Lord Mountbatten told the writers: "I'm glad I didn't (know) because I don't know what I would have done." The Mountbatten view of Mr Jinnah is likely to be controversial in Pakistan. Portraits of this aloof, cold man are in all public buildings and offices, and his name is frequently invoked in speeches.



Militant demonstrators carried away by cage from their Yamit rooftop

Siege of memorial

Continued from page 1

Twenty young supporters of the right wing Kach movement, an offshoot of the New York-based Jewish Defence League still occupied a fortified bunker. Yesterday the real tension was taken out of the evacuation when the renounced an earlier threat to commit mass suicide at 30 minute intervals. But their spiritual leader, Brooklyn-born rabbi Meir Kahane, told reporters that they still intended to fight against their removal.

Cairo: Senior representatives from Egypt, Israel and

the United States are scheduled to meet here on Friday for yet another attempt to settle the border dispute between Egypt and Israel in advance of the planned Israeli evacuation of Sinai (Our Correspondent writes).

The hastily called meeting appeared to indicate that Egypt's position was to leave itself open to criticism from Arab countries opposed to the Camp David accord, who may view a withdrawal to the Israeli proposed demarcation lines — rather than the Egyptian — as a further concession to the exploration of outer space.

Pym holds private talks with senators

Continued from page 1

Washington on board a British Airways Concorde, was taken straight from the airport to the State Department where he went into immediate session with Mr Haig. He then had a working lunch with the Secretary of State.

Mr Pym was due to address a meeting of the Senate foreign relations committee in private later this afternoon and have further talks tomorrow with senior Administration officials and Mr Haig.

In his arrival statement Mr Pym went out of his way to praise the "heroic efforts" being made by Mr Haig to find a peaceful settlement.

His remarks were intended to support American attempts to act as honest broker between London and Washington. The Reagan Administration has been strongly criticized on Capitol Hill and in the American press for failing to come out in support of Britain, its foremost NATO ally and the victim of Argentine aggression.

British officials made it clear, however, they were confident that the United States would side with Britain if negotiations failed. They said that while it was right for the United States to stand aside from British requests to its other allies and partners to bring pressure to bear on Argentina, "it is also true that it is taken for granted that the United States cannot in the end of the day continue to be even-handed between the aggressor and the victim."

Although British officials emphasized Britain's desire to see the dispute settled peacefully they said there could be no compromise on the main elements to the British approach.

Moscow: Two Soviet satellites launched yesterday have been sent into orbit that takes them over the South Atlantic and the Falkland Islands, suggesting they might be used to observe British naval activities in the area (Michael Byron writes).

The launching of the two satellites, numbers 1351 and 1352 in the Cosmos series, was routinely announced by Tass. The agency said the angle of the inclination of the first was 57°, and of the second was 70° and both were said to be carrying scientific equipment for the exploration of outer space.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Sir Keith identifies a gap — and fills it

"Mr Speaker, I wish to make a statement about the work of the Schools Council for Curriculum and Examinations." From the moment the Secretary for Education, Sir Keith Joseph, uttered those words yesterday, it was clear that the council did not stand a chance.

A few minutes later it was no more. In the absence of any hostilities so far in the South Atlantic, the Prime Minister, in order to satisfy the thirst for battle on the Tory back benches, had sent out Sir Keith to sink a quango. The operation, then, was closely bound up with domestic British politics. In a domestic outburst, Sir Keith told the Government's followers: "I have considered this matter in the light of Mrs Trevelyan's report, which was published in October, and the comments on it. We are grateful to her for her report."

There was no turning back

There was now no turning back. "It has prompted us to give fresh thought to the two functions of the council and the best ways of performing them," he said. Strong words. But did the Government have the will to carry through such a threat? Sir Keith now began to indulge in the inevitable display of *machismo*. "We have concluded that a single body, constituted as an elaborate network of committees on the lines of the Schools Council, is not well placed to carry out both functions," he raved.

On the subject of examinations, he said bluntly: "Radical changes are required." Moreover, "Ministers need independent authoritative advice on how these examinations might best serve national aims for education." Such jingo talk sounded very easy from the safety of Whitehall. But would such a policy be enforced in a world ruled by such powers as the National Union of Teachers?

None the less, Tory back bench morale soared at this news of the destruction of the hated Schools Council for Curriculum and Examinations. Suddenly Sir Keith moved on to announce a sudden peace mission. He

would "discuss with the local authority associations the establishment of an Examination Council, appointed and funded by the Secretaries of State for Education and for Wales."

So he had lain waste one quango in order to replace it with another. What kind of war was this? There was worse to come. He began talking about "curriculum development". It was a "professional activity which goes on — continuously throughout the education system," he said. "This activity needs to be reinforced by a national body with the limited task of identifying gaps, helping to fill them and assisting with the curricular dissemination of curriculum innovation," he added ominously.

Identifying gaps and helping to fill them? What was wrong with continuing to rely on Britain's dentists for that job? But no, Sir Keith proposed instead a "School Curriculum Development Council". Another quango! That now made it two in place of the one he had blown to bits. "Its constitution should promote the sensible ordering of priorities and efficient operation," he maintained. On. By now there was a crisis of confidence on the Tory benches. Morale crashed.

A particularly deadening blow

"We shall discuss with local authority associations the establishment of such a body," he envisaged. It would be appointed by the Secretaries of State after consultation... financed jointly local and central government... most members would be teachers." This last was a particularly deadening blow. But it was followed a few seconds later with the final admission of a British defeat. "We hope that many of the expert staff of the council will be ready to join the new bodies."

It was all over. Sir Keith sat down. When certain Tories learn that the days are passed when Britain can use force, with any hope of success, against public bodies containing teachers?

Roads project backed

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

The Prime Minister is understood to have overruled Treasury objections to the use of private finance for new trunk roads. As a result Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, is to embark on detailed studies into possible hire-purchase motorways, and to hold meetings with companies interested in conducting them.

The idea is to encourage road builders to raise finance for new roads as well as building them, thus removing the cost from public sector borrowing limits. Repayment would be by an annual

charge paid by the Department of Transport to the contractor on the basis of traffic using the road. The proposal raised strong objections at the Treasury on the ground that it was not genuine privatization but merely a device to circumvent public sector finance limits for what remained public sector projects.

Mr Howell sees the proposal as a way of harnessing private capital, providing much-needed roads. A prime candidate is the 15-mile stretch of file endmotorway between Maidstone and Ashford.

As the writers showed in their earlier book, Mr Jinnah was dying of tuberculosis and living on willpower, whisky and cigarettes during the negotiations. Lord Mountbatten was not aware of this, had he known, he might have acted differently in dealing with the threat of a partition which he thought ghastly and sheer madness.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Anne, President, Save The Children Fund, opens Trinity House Family Centre, Manchester, 10.
Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, patron, British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association, attends Service of Thanksgiving, Westminster Abbey, to celebrate their Golden Jubilee, 11.25.
The Duchess of Kent dines with the North Yorkshire Police at Newby Wiske, North Yorkshire, 7.30.

New exhibitions

Contemporary Australian jewelry and recent ceramics, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, (from today until May 15).
Vikings in England, Yorkshire Museum, York, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, (from today until September 30).
Exhibitions in progress
Antique corkscrews, bottles, decanters, 18th century drinking glasses, Harveys Wine Museum, 12 Denmark Street, Bristol, every Friday, 10 to 12 and 2 to 4.30, (visitors over 18 only).

Stamps, covers and photographs depicting sailing ships of the world, Maritime Museum, The Quay, Exeter, daily 10 to 5, 10 to 6 from June 3, (until Dec 31).
Late Sackert paintings, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, Mon to Sat 10 to 6, (until May 22).
Last chance to see
Installations and drawings by Brian Kennedy, Art & Research Exchange, Lombard Street, Belfast, 12 to 5, (ends today).
Oil paintings by Alan Smallwood, Eton Art Gallery, 58 High Street, Eton, Berks, 10 to 12.30 and 2 to 5, (ends today).

Top 10 Films

The top ten films in London:
1 *Quest for Fire*
2 *Evil Under the Sun*
3 *Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl*
4 *Reds*
5 *On Golden Pond*
6 *Sharky's Machine*
7 *The Boat*
8 *Raiders of the Lost Ark*
9 *The Secret Policeman's Other Ball*
10 *Veiling Hours/Escape from New York*
The top five in the provinces:
1 *Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl*
2 *Instability*
3 *Dragonslayer*
4 *Christiane F*
5 *Sharky's Machine*
Compiled by Screen International

Roads

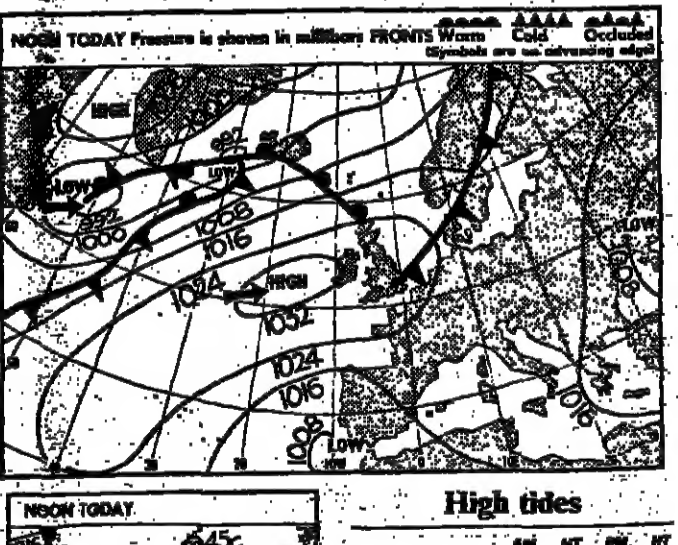
London and the South-east: M11: Lane closures from junction 5 (Loughton) to 7 (Harlow). M11 No entry or exit at junction 13 (Bedford). A3: Lane closures at Buxton Hill, S of Petersfield. Wales and West: A5: Closed this weekend at Gwylfa (N Wales). A40: Only one lane eastbound from junction 20 to 21 (Bristol). A300: Stop/go boards at Probus village, between Truro and Lost Withiel.
Midlands: A5: Temporary signals at Kilby and Cowdall (Northamptonshire). B100 (Shropshire) and Stretton aqueduct (Staffordshire). M1: No northbound entry at junction 16 (Northampton).
North: M16: Lane closures S of Rawcliffe, Humberside. A100: Lane closures near M18 junction, 5 Yorkshire. M1: Lane closures between junction 30 (Workshop) and 31 (Barnsley).
Scotland: A832: Roadworks between Poolewe and Kinlochewe. A92: Only one lane southbound at Bridge of Don. A92: Stop/go boards of N Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire. Information supplied by the AA.

Weather forecast

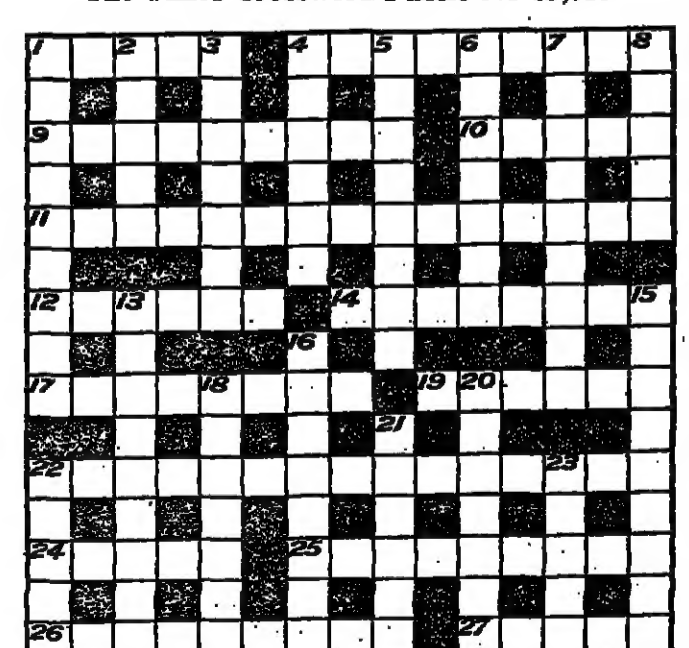
A ridge of high pressure will persist over S Britain, while a weak trough of lower pressure will cross northern areas.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S England: E Midlands: Mainly dry, mist or fog at first, sunny periods developing; wind variable, light; max temp 16C (61F).
E Angles: Mainly dry, mist or fog dispersing inland, sunny periods developing, becoming cloudier later; wind variable, light; max temp 16C (61F).
E Central N, NE England, W Midlands, Channel Islands: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind variable, light; max temp 15C (59F).
SE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals; sun mainly light, max temp 14C (57F).
SE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals; sun mainly light, max temp 14C (57F).
Outlook for the weekend: Mostly dry with sunny intervals.



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,813



- ACROSS
- 1 A professorial surname, the easy one? (5).
 - 4 Scarlet emblem of English admiral and French marshal in 11's time (9).
 - 9 Home of idleness not as dull as it might be (5-4).
 - 10 In Holland it is silver in colour (5).
 - 11 The Widow Capet, victim of 22 at (5,10).
 - 12 Tavern cronies we hear is in an institution (6).
 - 14 One kind of band and a way to make another (army style)? (8).
 - 17 Met with large entanglement of wire (8).
 - 19 It sounds frightfully comical (6).
 - 22 The fairest award for classical students (8,2,5).
 - 24 Bird returns to circle a native village (5).
 - 25 Fruit I can get cooked in this device (9).
 - 26 Anagrammatize "back row" (9).
 - 27 Herb's no waiter, it's said (5).
- DOWN
- 1 Simon as newspaper-man? (8).
 - 2 "To what green —" was Keats's heifer being led? (5).
 - 3 Particular esteem (7).
 - 4 Charge small sum on Latin translation (6).
 - 5 Fish rising in lake, including one of poor quality (8).
 - 6 Marine creature which is a feature in eastern United States (7).
 - 7 Rest troubled by the dark waters of the moon? (9).
 - 8 A story about for instance a feudal lord (5).
 - 13 Sensational performance by new model Hindu hero (9).
 - 15 Levantine capitalist to go in for ornamental metal-work at (5,10).
 - 16 Support isn't common in a cockfight? (8).
 - 18 Spinning-wheel devotee (7).
 - 20 Original material for newspaper, it's otherwise for the scrivener? (7).
 - 21 Winnie raised old English bird (5).
 - 22 Miller, J — some card! (5).
 - 23 Flowing like mead, say, at the Magna Carta scene (5).

Talks, lectures

Shells as decoration, by S M Brock, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.
Music
Organ recital by David Hill, St George's Church, Gateshead, 7.30.
Concert by Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus conducted by André Previn, Wells Cathedral, 8.
St George's Day concert, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.
St George's Day concert, Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, 7.30.

General

Book Fair, Victoria Galleries, City Hall, Hull, 2 to 8 today; 10 to 5 tomorrow.

Sporting fixtures

Tennis: British hard court championships, at Bournemouth. Football: Fourth Division, York v Crewe (7.30).
Rugby League: Second division, Salford v Keighley (7.30).
Racing: Flat meetings at Sandown Park (2) and Beverley (2.30). National Hunt at Market Rasen (2.15).
Cricket: Cambridge University v Glamorgan (11 to 5.30 or 6).

Sport on TV

2.25 to 11.30, International Tennis — *Star Express Classic*.
TV: 2.25, Mid-week racing from Sandown Park.

Anniversaries

Death, 1616, and (approximate) birth, 1564, of William Shakespeare, Stratford-on-Avon.
J W M Turner was born in London, 1775. Mipuel de Cervantes, died in Madrid, 1616 and Wordsworth at Grasmere, 1850.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Children's Homes Bill, third reading. Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill, report.

St George's Day

England today observes the feast of its patron saint, St George's birth and death commemorated to signify the year known he served as a soldier under the Emperor Diocletian, including a visit to England on a military mission.
When the persecution of the Christians was ordered he bought an interview with the Emperor, with whom he was reconciled. He resigned his military commission, and arrest and torture followed. He was martyred about 300AD.
The cult of St George is an ancient one which, about the sixth century had become popular in Europe and Asia. Two hundred years later churches in England were dedicated to him, and in 1222 a Synod at Oxford proclaimed April 23, the supposed date of his death, as a lesser holy day to be kept in remembrance as a national festival. In 1415 it was declared a feast day.

The pound

The Pound		Bank	Bank
		Sells	Buys
Australia \$		1.67	1.75
Austria S	31.35	29.35	
Belgium Fr	91.25	86.25	
Canada \$	2.24	2.15	
Denmark Kr	15.03	14.25	
Ireland P	1.26	1.21	
France Fr	11.53	10.93	
Germany DM		10.26	
Greece Dr	10.66	10.06	
Hong Kong \$	115.50	108.50	
Italy Lit	2385.00	2285.00	
Japan Yen	456.00	430.00	
Netherlands Gld	1.91	1.85	
Norway Kr	11.25	10.65	
Portugal Esc	133.00	125.50	
South Africa Rd		2.25	2.08
Spain Ptas	190.75	181.75	
Sweden Kr	10.85	10.35	
Switzerland Fr		1.83	1.76
USA \$	1.83	1.76	
Yugoslavia Dnr	97.50	91.50	

Notes for small denominated bank notes only.
* Exchange in London fixed at 100/00.

Rates for small denominated bank notes only, at different rates apply at travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The FT Index closed up 1.6 of 563.0.

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Sea

A strike of ramp workers at Dieppe today affect Sealink services from Newcastle. Passengers should call 07912 3165.

The papers

We should resist the temptation, however great it is, to inflame total humiliation upon Argentina, says the Daily Express. "Wars are like strikes", it adds; "they leave a legacy of bitterness, and it is better to avoid them than to end them."

Commenting on the bombing raid into Lebanon, *The Mirror* says: "Jerusalem hit with a rare brutality and a total contempt of international reactions... Mr Begin's intention to realize 'Great Israel' by disguised or undisguised territorial annexations justifies concern for the future."

The New York Times scoffs at Argentina's invocation of the Rio Treaty, saying Argentina itself has violated the treaty commitment not to resort to force. "Its impudence is compounded by crude hints that Buenos Aires will rely on Soviet aid to sustain its aggression", the paper adds.

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Around Britain

	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Sun	Rain	Max	Min
London	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Birmingham	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Manchester	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Edinburgh	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Belfast	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Cardiff	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Exeter	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Gloucester	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Leeds	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Liverpool	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Newcastle	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Nottingham	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Sheffield	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Southampton	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Stoke	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Swansea	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Torquay	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Wolverhampton	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8
Wrexham	12.5	11	17	8	12.5	11	17	8

Abroad

Dover	11.21	5.5	11.42	8.7
Dunfermline	10.57	5.5	11.42	8.5
Glasgow	11.02	4.9	12.37	4.7
Haverhill	12.10	4.9	12.37	4.7
London	10.46	11.08	11.42	8.5
Leeds	8.53	7.3	10.7	7.6
Manchester	10.30	5.2	11.42	8.5
Newcastle	11.21	5.2	11.42	8.5
Liverpool	11.45	5.8	11.42	8.5
Leedsford	10.06	7.7	12.15	4.5
London	10.06	7.7	12.15	4.5
Manchester	8.22	7.1	11.33	7.2
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